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Minority Opportunity News

MON
Minority Opportunity News

2730 STEMMONS FRWY. STE. 1202 TOWER WEST, DALLAS, TEXAS 75207

VOLUME 5, NO. 10 October 1996



Setting a new AGENDA

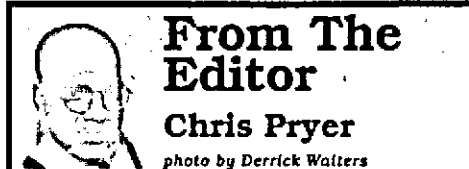
**African American
leaders gather in
St. Louis to form
a Black political
agenda**

African Americans Spending More Than Ever!

**Elections 1996:
are you casting
your vote?**

**Tupac Shakur:
Did the media do
him wrong?**

**Bill J. Priest Institute's
"Incubator" nurtures
small businesses**



Editorial

Does the media create—or illuminate?

I'm hearing the accusation more and more: "The media is the cause of..." "The media has blown it out of proportion!" "The media is painting a distorted picture." "If it wasn't for the media's influence..." Certainly mass media has become more intrusive in our lives. But does it manipulate our society—or reflect it?

I'd be the first to say that the media, whether it be in the area of news reporting, entertainment or education, has a moral obligation to the public to be accurate, fair and unbiased. In other words, they are not to abuse their power of persuasion or intentionally shape and mold public opinion to their own gain.

But let's understand that whether intentionally or not, media will contribute to shape our view of world events. It is only when a specific agenda is being promoted by the media should there be cause for concern. And history, distant and recent, tells us that there will always be cause for concern.

However, before we totally indict the media, let's realize that commerce is at the root of mass communications—television, newspapers, films, radio, magazines, books, etc. When profit is the motive, the question is always the same: What does the buying public want? Good news or bad news? Sex or chastity? Nice guy or rogue? Academic nerd or athletic outlaw? Marital bliss or back street affair?

No matter what the medium, you better believe extensive research has been done to better observe, and hopefully predict, human likes and dislikes. This data fuels the sophisticated marketing machines that utilize the media, giving the public what it wants. Detractors of the media maintain that it tells the public what it wants.

Whether the media creates images or merely reflects them can be inspected in the story of the slain rapper and film star Tupac Shakur. A professed disciple of the "gangsta" genre of rap, Mr. Shakur depicted this image in his lyrics, his movies, his videos and in his private life. As with most people, this wasn't the only side of Tupac Shakur. But it was, by far, the most saleable. It was quite evident that Mr. Shakur was also aware of this. And the media. Ker-ching, ker-ching.

In this greedy, money-hungry world we live in, responsibility must be shouldered by all members of society. We, the public, must hold the media accountable. After all—the tail shouldn't wag the dog.

MON

For a number of local business, civic and elected leaders, September 24, 1996 was a hallmark in the life of Dallas. On that day the "Declaration of Shared Beliefs," was signed, a document that outlines a common set of ideals designed to have the city's leadership "stand up and speak out publicly for racial harmony and seek an end to all racial prejudice." Just over 50 civic and elected officials, along with the 43 members of the Dallas Together Forum, attended the signing event.

The *Minority Opportunity News* will always endorse any sincere and bona fide effort to bring about increased racial harmony in Dallas. *MON* has always been, and will continue to be, a leader in our region in identifying issues of concern to minority communities and sharing intelligent approaches to advance and enhance the economic, social, civic and political factors that affect us. This particular signing event does present interesting perspectives for all of us to consider with respect to both the state of race

Dallas Together Forum

relations in the city and the "Dallas way" of addressing city issues.

Why interesting? It is important that we first examine the history of the development of the document to gain some insight. The first point is to look at why the document was created in the first place. Much of the original impetus for the Declaration goes back to a recent incident where Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price referred to a Hispanic member of Parkland Hospital's board of directors as a "coconut." Commissioner Price suggested that he used this reference to reflect the fact that the gentleman was "brown on the outside but white on the inside."

Price's comments were made during a heated discussion about his protests at Parkland regarding their lack of fair employment and business practices. Over the weeks following his comment, certain Hispanic leaders called for a public, across-the-board condemnation of Price and his words. At that time, many

of the same public officials and civic leaders who signed the document were

called upon to publicly proclaim how wrong Mr. Price was and appeal for more rational behavior during public debate of issues.

This, according to several members of the Forum who asked not to be identified, led to the Declaration of Shared Beliefs. Ironically, Commissioner Price has refused to sign the statement and has instead offered an amended version for the membership of the Forum to consider. His version was not the one signed at the public meeting.

We think that it is important that our reading public have an opportunity to choose which version best reflects the sentiments of the African American community.

Both statements are printed on page 6. Please call us with your choice at (214) 606-3890 or write in to *MON*. The more compelling letters and phone calls will be published in a later issue.

View Point

Champion of Christianity humiliated during radio debate with Muslim

By Michael Muhammad

Dr. Jack Evans, president of Southwestern Christian College and renown debator, was humiliated during a formal debate with Marvin Muhammad, The Son (Sun) of Man, leader/teacher of the New Nation of Islam.

Dr. Evans, over the past 20 years, has been on the offensive, challenging Muslims. In view of his recent refusal to debate Marvin Muhammad, this writer can only conclude that Dr. Evans [selected] his opponents only after careful scrutiny [revealed they] were sufficiently lacking in the knowledge of the Holy Bible, therefore ensuring victory.

In previous debates, the last of which was held at the Bronco Bowl in Dallas, Dr. Evans chose for his opponent Jeremiah Muhammad (a former Christian pastor also known as Jeremiah Cummings), a 9-year student with no experience in Islam as taught by the Honorable Elijah

Muhammad. Prior to that, Dr. Evans chose to debate an orthodox Muslim in Washington, D.C., being fully aware that orthodox Muslims do not believe in Islam as taught by the Honorable Elijah Muhammad. However, on August 30, 1996, in a fashion reminiscent of the biblical story of David and Goliath, The Son of Man trounced Dr. Evans in an hour-long radio broadcast on KHVN-AM in Dallas. During the broadcast, Dr. Evans denounced Islam as a false religion. The Son of Man rebutted by defining Islam and giving its true meaning, which is "entire submission to the will of God." He then asked Dr. Evans how could submission to God be a false religion? The Doctor failed to respond. After several exchanges, Dr. Evans stated that the Honorable Elijah Muhammad was not the Elijah mentioned in the Bible, and further stated that it was referring to John the Baptist. The Son of Man countered with the testimony of John the Baptist given in the book of St. John, chapter 1 and verse 21, where John, having been asked whether he was Elias, answered, "I am not." After the exchange, a visibly nervous Dr. Evans reasserted that John the Baptist was Elias, despite John's testimony.

Following the broadcast, The Son of Man reissued his challenge to pay Dr. Evans \$10,000 if he could prove, with scriptures, that The Son of Man was not

teaching the truth. He also offered to pay for the cost of the building where the debate would take place. However, Dr. Evans refused unless The Son of Man would bring 1,000 people to attend and he 2,000. Does the scriptures say come, let us reason together if we can get 1,000 people? Or does it say that if a man has a hundred sheep and one goes astray, will he not leave the ninety and nine and go after that which went astray? Should we take serious a man who is willing to defend his beliefs in the presence of 3,000 or more people and not in the presence of one? Can we take seriously a man who does not rejoice at the converting of one? The Holy Scriptures say "...all the Angels of Heaven rejoice at the converting of one."

Could a man (Marvin Muhammad) who is only a high school graduate pose a threat to a man who [has] a doctoral degree from a theological seminary? Has Dr. Evans finally met his match? I guess you Christians will never know, since your champion will not come out to defend his beliefs in depth.

So, in this writer's opinion, he has not only met his match, but the Son of Man is superior as it is written: "The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath Day."

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Michael Muhammad is a member of the Nation of Islam living in the Metroplex.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover Story

18.....Setting a New Agenda

Editorials

02.....Dallas Together Forum

Features

08.....Bill J. Priest Institute
11.....Umphey Lee Elementary
12.....Networking
29.....Tupac's Death
35.....Black Buying Power

Special

02.....Viewpoint
10.....Ethnic Notes
15.....Proprietary Information
24.....Election '96
25.....Black Vote
27.....Black Radio Vote Drive
28.....Black Media
31.....Ask Girlfriend
32.....Fairy Street Mama
33.....Mon's Youth Watch
34.....Domestic Violence
36.....Olympian: Chryste Gaines
37.....Nonprofits

Columns

02.....Editor
05.....Community Pulse
07.....Pen on Fire
38.....Spiritual
39.....Real Estate

Recurring

03.....Letters
16-17.....In The News
22-23.....SWB Community Calendar
40-43.....Career Opportunities



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LETTERS...

Black Unity

This is in response to Rev. Dwight McKissic's article (July 96) and Hassan Omowle's letter (Sept. 96).

Black Christian men, before we draw any conclusions, our conclusions must coincide with "thus saith the Lord." The Jews in the Old Testament found themselves in all kinds of bondage due to compromising the word of God!

Luke 21 tells us of the sign of the end times. The tenth verse tells us that nations shall rise against nations. In the original Greek, it was ethnos against ethnos. For us to believe in black unity would have us pitted against our Lord and Savior.

In the Old testament, the "black Hebrews," in obedience to their God, were in opposition to the Amorite (Hammurabi), Canaanites, Egyptians, Philistines and so on and so on. All of these were "black tribes." They knew not to stand with someone who rejected their savior. They walked not after the flesh (black) but after the SPIRIT!


The Old Testament is full of the description of the church Jesus is coming back for. If you were to look at the Ephod the High Priest wore (type of Jesus Christ), you'll see it had many different stones on it signifying different races. Also, when the oil ran down Aaron's beard, it anointed every one.

Also in the Old Testament, there is a passage about the "speckled bird". The birds of a single color stood around not wanting to be a part of the speckled bird, but judge it. We see this judgment in some black churches, some Hispanic churches, and some white churches, which are full of saved KKK members. God's fullness was more with the speckled bird (racial reconciliation). Also in Malachi 3:17 in the last days Jesus will come and make up his jewels, (precious stones of many colors).

Black men, we have to get off the deception that is being taught to us or we will see ourselves and our families and communities in spiritual bondage, which will manifest themselves physically. We also must look closely at who we break bread with! Ezekiel 44:5-9 warned those who allowed the uncircumcised to come in their sanctuaries. God was not pleased. Today's circumcised on those only wash in the blood of Jesus Christ.

II Timothy 2:15 tells us as black men in Jesus to "study to show ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." This includes who we fellowship with, how we vote, how we see ourselves! Write me!

Adrian Lovely
Carrollton, Tx



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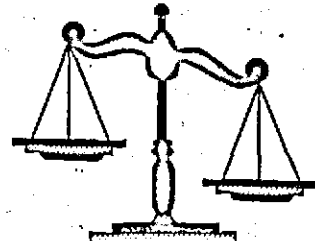
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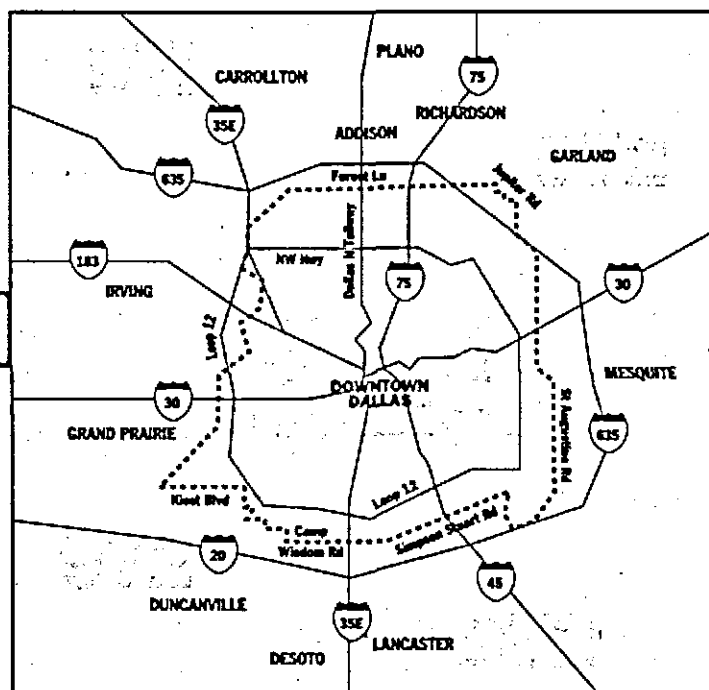
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216	258	300	390	438	485
217	259	301	392	441	486
218	260	303	393	442	487
219	261	304	394	444	488
221	262	305	395	445	490
222	263	306	396	446	491
223	264	307	397	447	492
224	266	308	399	448	493
225	269	313	400	449	494
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227	271	316	402	451	496
228	272	317	403	452	497
229	273	318	404	453	498
230	274	322	405	454	499
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237	280	334	413	459	506
238	281	335	414	461	509
239	282	336	416	462	513
240	283	338	417	463	514
241	284	346	418	466	515
242	285	347	419	468	516
243	286	355	420	470	517
245	287	366	422	471	518
247	288	370	423	472	519
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550	606	667	736	842	929
551	607	669	738	843	930
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556	612	681	753	851	933
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558	614	684	758	864	935
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561	617	686	766	867	938
562	618	687	770	868	949
563	619	690	771	869	952
564	620	694	772	872	960
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569	622	700	774	875	964
570	623	701	775	876	966
572	624	702	776	878	968
574	625	705	778	881	975
575	626	708	779	882	980
576	627	709	780	883	982
578	628	713	782	884	985
579	629	714	783	886	986
580	633	715	784	888	988
584	635	716	788	889	991
585	636	717	789	893	994
586	641	718	790	895	995
587	642	719	791	901	996
591	644	721	795	907	997

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Thomas
Muhammad

One BILLION reasons not to vote this year

Head Start and many others.

This in an atmosphere that has spawned news announcements like "Rural small towns are increasingly depending on Prisons for jobs and economic development." The irony is that all of the cuts have come from a so-called "New Democrat" who's still politically liberal enough to know the importance of singing "We shall overcome" and

when to cry on cue! In fact "Slick Willy" (as President Bill Clinton is commonly called) has done such a great job that his Republican rival has decided to get in on the act. While campaigning in St. Louis,

Mo., Bob Dole leaped on stage with an African American singing group and mouthed (I say mouthed because his lips were moving but no sounds came out) a few notes of the old Sam and Dave hit "Soul Man." People on the stage and in the audience then changed the lyrics to "I'm a Dole Man." The act went over so well that Dole adopted the jingle as his campaign song. A week later he was served with a lawsuit by the owners of the tune. The suit says Mr. Dole must pay them \$100,000 each time he uses the jingle. Well, so much for Dole's singing career. As for Colonel Gadhafi's billion dollar gift to Minister Farakhan, there's no indication that the Dole Man's political position would be any different than Slick Willy's. During the Million Man March, Dole wasted no time in condemning Clinton for not denouncing the Minister by name the day of the march.

It is no secret that Colonel Gadhafi, along with the leaders of Iran, Iraq, Syria and Sudan, is part of a group that white American politicians love to hate and use as scapegoats during an election year. All of the above countries are on a U.S. list of terrorist sponsoring nations. All are Muslim countries with people of color, which suggest to me that America's terrorism policy is a racist and religiously bigoted one. Terrorism is a new buzz word which actually means attack, destroy and kill any Muslim leaders or governments who dare to stand up to the racist and inhumane acts committed by Israel and western European powers. With the fall of communism, American political leaders have been searching for a new enemy to replace the void left by the break up of Russia. The terrorism label was created to fill that void. No one, other than the U.S., Israel and European leaders, know the criteria used to determine who gets on the list. However, it is clear that the list is akin to the "American communist list" of Senator Joseph McCarthy back in the 1950s, who saw communist everywhere and anywhere—under every bed, in every tree, salt shaker, peanut shell, condom, lamp shade, doggie poop, cat litter box, snuff can, cigarette, car battery, Bible, catcher's mit, between each rain drop. Ahh, what the hell, I think you get the message.

The sad commentary is that most of us have bought into the terrorism scare. Take the issue of beefing up security at American airports. Following the explosion of TWA flight 800, President Clinton announced the formation of the White House Commission on Aviation Safety and Security, headed by Vice President Al Gore. The commission was to investigate all areas of security at our airports and make recommendations on how they can be improved. The commission has been bombarded with private security consultants and so-called terrorism experts. Most of the consultants are white Jews. Due to their influence, the commission recommended spending money on devices to detect explosives, particularly a machine known as CTX5000, which costs more than \$1 million each. The commission is expected to ask the U.S. Congress for \$300 million to pay for the machines. And yes, high priced consultants will contract to sell, repair and maintain them. Tell me, reader, do you think that will be someone like you?

Don't get me wrong. I believe that each time we get on a plane, whether it be in the United States or anywhere else in the world, it should take us to and return us from our destination safely. However, spending this kind of money without justification is stupid! The truth of the matter is, THERE HAS BEEN ONLY ONE PLANE IN AMERICA'S HISTORY THAT WAS BROUGHT DOWN BY A BOMB! It was done by a person who had been paid by a young White American boy who wanted his family members killed in order to collect the inheritance. America has the safest planes and airports in the world. America flies more than 500 million flights each year and, except for the one mentioned above, none have ever been blown from the skies.

We should tell Slick Willy to change his terrorism policy to one that is fair to all. And to stop sticking his finger in the air to find out which way the political winds are blowing before making his decisions. Of course we know he won't; therefore our best protest is to keep our votes to ourselves and deny him an election victory. After all, there's really no difference between him and the Dole Man. And he's cut everything there is to cut; it couldn't get any worse.

So, during November, when you get a call or visit from the get-out-the-vote people, tell them, "No BILLION! No VOTE!" In fact, post it on a sign in your yard!

Until then, the struggle continues...

MON

Let me begin by making one point perfectly clear. If the Democratic Party, the Republican Party, the Reform Party and yes, even the Black Caucus Party, cannot get the U.S. government to allow Minister Louis Farakhan to receive the BILLIONS of dollars promised to him from Colonel Moammar Gadhafi of Libya, then African, Mexican, Native and even progressive Anglo Americans should say, "To hell with all parties!" and on election day stay home.

For those of you who are not up on the BILLION dollar issue, by all means let me bring you up to speed. On August 30,

1996, in Tripoli, Libya, Minister Farakhan, the leader of the Nation of Islam, was awarded the famed Gadhafi Prize. The prize is a humanitarian award given to individuals who have performed a service that impacts people throughout the world. The prize is given by North-South 21, a Switzerland-based, non-governmental organization that has NO ties to Colonel Gadhafi or the government of Libya! Past award recipients have been people like President Nelson Mandela, and the children of the Intifada. (These are the same children who faced brutal Israeli soldiers with only stones as weapons and forced the illegal State of Israel into peace negotiations with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.) The award carries with it a monetary prize of \$250,000. However, the United States Treasury Department, in consultation with the State Department, has declined an application for a license from Minister Farakhan to receive the monetary gift.

In addition, after observing the wonderful sight of the Million Man March, Colonel Gadhafi telephoned Minister Farakhan and pledged "the wealth of Libya" behind the Nation of Islam to improve the social and economic conditions of black people." However, white media reported the Libyan leader offered the Minister \$1 billion. Either way, it's a lot of damn money being denied a people who have had to endure chattel slavery in the past from a racist government that now advocates cutting such programs as affirmative action, welfare entitlements,

please

(Editor's Note: The opinions expressed by Mr. Muhammad's commentary are not necessarily those of the Minority Opportunity News.)

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Declaration of Shared Beliefs

Dallas Together Forum

Preamble

The Dallas Together Forum is committed to making Dallas a better place to live and work for all of its citizens. The Forum's purpose is to bring about broad-based, lasting improvement in relations between racial and ethnic communities. It accomplishes this by collaborating with community leaders to create an environment in which mutual respect exists for all Dallas citizens. To that end, the Dallas Together Forum members commit themselves to the following shared beliefs and request other leaders to participate.

Shared Beliefs

We believe that:

- Dallas can only reach its full potential when ethnic diversity in social and cultural values is universally appreciated and encouraged.
- absolute commitment to progress in the economic well-being of all citizens and to the inclusiveness of all constituencies in the institutions of the community is required.
- the well being of all Dallas citizens depends on its leaders.
- leaders are responsible and accountable for managing personal behavior to an even higher standard than citizens—leadership requires visible support of racial harmony.
- more than racial tolerance is required; a

proactive role for every community leader in advancing racial harmony and in speaking out publicly against actions of racial prejudice and bigotry, no matter the source, is imperative and necessary.

- while a community leader's responsibility to advocate for a particular group is understood, the goals of cohesiveness and coalition building in the full community cannot be ignored.
- mutual respect is reflected by leaders through non-judgmental language, actions and beliefs.
- sensitivity to each other through education and consistent practice of cultural awareness, understanding, patience and acceptance is required.
- local leadership—government, religious, business, social and professional—must serve as role models for the citizens of Dallas, especially our youth.
- open, honest and constructive communication, complemented by active listening and respect, is necessary for advancing these beliefs.
- I recognize and acknowledge that, as a community leader, I have a greater responsibility than others for ensuring that racial harmony and respect exist. I believe in the Declaration of shared Beliefs of the Dallas Together Forum and pledge my personal actions will reflect these beliefs and my personal support will advance these beliefs in institutions I influence.



Declaration of Shared Beliefs and Behaviors

If Dallas is to be Together
(As written by Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price)

Preamble

The Dallas Together Forum is committed to making Dallas a city that exemplifies equity and equity for all citizens regardless of race, creed, color or national origin. The forum's purpose is to actively seek equity where it has been denied and to ensure social, political and economic equality especially to citizens that have historically and traditionally been disenfranchised. This will be accomplished by the integrous empowerment of citizen leaders chosen by those they represent. Through the effective collaboration, cooperation, and participation of a broad base of leadership, an environment of mutual respect will be established. To that end, the Dallas Together Forum members commit themselves to the following shared beliefs and behaviors and request other leaders to participate.

Shared Commitments

We, the leadership of the Dallas Community, are committed to:

- Encouraging the full participation of all Dallas citizens in every aspect of social and political governance.
- Implementing a political process that not only values but ensures proportionate representation of racial groups at every level of governance.
- Initiating an agenda for economic empowerment that not only establishes goals for inclusion of racial minority participation but actively creates the systems that ensure successful minority participation.

•Disavowing the beliefs that affirmative action is preferential treatment.

•Supporting a public health care system that provides health care to its indigent citizens under an open system that ensures participation and involvement of doctors representative of every race and ethnic group.

•Endorsing an educational system that demonstrates the unequivocal success of all students; while respecting and honoring the diversity of racial and cultural leadership necessary to create that environment of accomplishment.

•Sanctioning the print and visual media for its disproportionate portrayal of African Americans as the criminally dependent element of this community.

•Advocating the open discussion of racism as it exists in this community.

•Establishing a system of juvenile justice that is truly race blind in its treatment of juvenile offenders in this community.

•Ensuring the revitalization of older racially identified neighborhoods that provide decent affordable housing without the threat of gentrification.

•Guaranteeing a system of police protection that replaces the brutality and racial insensitivity of the current system.

•I recognize and acknowledge that as a community leader, I am responsible for moving this agenda forward in the spirit of agape love.

What African-American Republican said that "there can never be a white man's party or a black man's party under the true principles of the Republican banner."? Coming in MON's December issue.

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Cheryl Smith

Pitting brother against brother

I've been watching the actions of KXAS-TV management lately and I was one of the first to applaud their efforts when I saw an African American male anchoring the weekend newscast. Then the next weekend I saw a different African American man. Back and forth. Back and forth.

Sure, there were deviations from this pattern. But it was becoming clear to me (if not many) that there seemed to be an anchor war going on.

The subject of African American anchors (or the lack thereof) is not new to the National Association of Black Journalists. Nor are television executives around the country oblivious to the ongoing dialogue regarding the disparity between Anglo and African American males anchoring television newscasts.

What is insulting, though, is the mindset that there can be only one African American anchor per station; only when one leaves will another one be hired.

What this has evolved into is a war in the newsroom among the few African Americans who are occupying space.

Now of course there will be those who say this is not the case. And then there will be those honest, noble persons

who will acknowledge that it does exist. Sure, we can all admit that this type of behavior is not something to be proud of, but the following scenario is all too common.

A woman is the weekend anchor, maybe the only female anchor at the station. The station brings in another woman, who may be a little younger, and possibly a few pounds thinner. You would think that these two women would automatically bond. Surely they

will work together and share "horror" stories. The "old" anchor would show the "new" anchor where to get her hair and nails done, spend time with her, help her get acquainted with the city.

But oftentimes the dynamics are totally different. Instead, there is a sort of adversarial

atmosphere established. The "old" anchor is made to feel as though this "new" woman has been brought in to eventually take her place. Jealousy emerges. Rumors are started. Bonding never takes place. The level of stress for both parties becomes unbearable.

Does management encourage this atmosphere? It would seem to be counter-productive; however, there are managers who thrive on creating chaos in their newsroom. I guess they feel it

pushes their employees to perform better. I wonder if anyone ever thought about inspiring productive behavior in their employees by means other than using fear and playing childish games. In talking to some execs, I was told that "competition" is good for the newsroom.

And that brings me back to KXAS. Clif Caldwell and Calvin Hughes are both good anchors and good reporters. But first and foremost, both are good men who don't deserve to ride the KXAS seesaw.

What rule book says there can be only one African American male anchor at the station at one time, anyway?

Can KXAS management see their way clear to doing something that no other station in the Metroplex has the wisdom or foresight to do? Just how long are we going to be expected to play this game of now you see him, now you don't?

Wait, before you say, "Now who do you want to fire?"

It's not about firing anyone at all. This is about creative use of the talents you have available and the misuse of authority.

I would just hope that people in newsrooms around the country realize that the battle is not with one another. That, believe it or not, they're in the same boat!!!

MON

Cheryl Smith is the host of Reporters Roundtable on Superstation Soul 73. Tune in on Sunday mornings at 8:00, immediately following Minister Louis Farrakhan's address.

What nineteenth century African-American received the Ph.D. from Paul Quinn college? Coming in MON's December issue.

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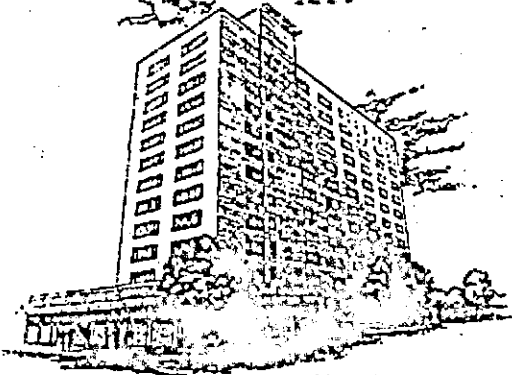
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The High Priest of business

Bill J. Priest Institute's Business Incubation Center provides life-sustaining support to business start-ups

By Cheryl L. Williams

Almost hidden in an obscure part of South Dallas, the Bill J. Priest Institute for Economic Development is quickly gaining the reputation as a mecca for business development. To support economic development in Dallas County, it has a single, yet powerful, goal—to help its clients improve their business performance.

Established in 1989 as a combined effort of the Dallas County Community College District (some call it the 8th campus) and the private sector, the Priest Institute provides businesses and industry with almost every conceivable service needed to foster job creation, job retention and business improvement. It offers job skills training, business facilities and services, business performance improvement services and small business development.

The Institute also collaborates with local corporations, the U.S. Small Business Administration, Dallas County Local Workforce Development Board, Southern Dallas Development Corporation, North Texas Women's Business Council, Greater Dallas Chamber of Commerce and the City of Dallas. To support companies during their vulnerable early years of business, the Institute followed a growing trend and opened the Business Incubation Center in 1991. Currently, it limits the length of occupancy to four years. In 1980, less than ten incubators existed in the world; today, an estimated 1,100 incubators operate worldwide. In Texas alone, more than thirty are in operation.

To its clients, the Bill Priest Institute can be a sanctuary—a place where the entrepreneurial spirit is nurtured, relationships are developed and businesses are born.

No one knows that better than Phillip Bando, manager of the Business Incubation Center (BIC) for the last 17 months. When it comes to caring for his charges—all forty-four of them—Bando doesn't like to sugar coat the realities of business ownership. In his first few months as the incubator's manager, he

served eviction notices to several tenants who were late with their rent payments. Bando, a former Federal government economist who owned and operated a business for eight years, admits that his actions caused some turmoil because, he says, tenants had previously been allowed to violate the terms of the lease agreement. But now, a year and a half later, he says when people come in, they know what is expected of them and what to expect from the incubator.

"We want to try to make the incubator mirror the realities outside the incubator as much as possible so that when a business leaves here, it doesn't get broadsided by prices for rent or any other expenses involved in doing business," said Bando.

Consequently, the manager/tenant relationship is smoother than it originally was and his charges, the incubator's tenants, respond to his

guidance and advice. So far, with the help of the incubator's resources, the businesses, which provide services and products that range from high tech medical equipment manufacturing to court reporting services to liquid industrial waste disposal, have not merely been able to survive, they have benefitted from the camaraderie and close relationships formed with each other.

"There's no secret to doing business," says Bando. "Whether its high tech or low tech, there is still a modus operandi on how to conduct business. You have to have customers. You have to provide customer service. You have to have some sort of internal operations so that you manage your cash flow. You have to be able to manage your sales to your capability to produce."

The key, he says, is in the application. "You can have business knowledge," Bando continued, "but unless you know how to apply that knowledge, you're really not going to have a business that works."

The fortunate neophyte businesses that gain admittance into BIC undoubtedly develop a competitive edge. Entrepreneurs can take advantage

of free one-on-one counseling and seminars led by professionals at the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) housed in the Institute. Because the incubation center offers low-cost access to computers, copiers, fax machines, word processing and postal services, they can also concentrate on developing their personal business skills instead of doing activities that consume time, energy and financial resources. Affordable lease rates and 24-hour access to its facilities, round off the many advantages of BIC.

Because most of the incubator's tenants begin as home-based businesses, the incubator is ideal as the next step out of the home for people who need more physical space, more professional space or find that they cannot run a business effectively from their home. That was the circumstance for BIC alumna Jean Bush, president and owner of Consulting and Planning Associates (CPA), a firm that offers performance management services.

Bush was attending an SBDC workshop at the Priest Institute when she learned of the incubation program. She discovered that the center could offer low-cost office space for her year-old business that had outgrown her home. For the cost of a closet-size office, she received free or low-cost access to office equipment, conference and meeting rooms, workshops and personal consultations and opportunities to network with fellow tenants and other professionals. During her stay at the incubator, she also gained valuable business knowledge and made critical contacts.

While at the incubator, Bush also scored one of her biggest business triumphs. She won a coveted Title III: Dislocated/Displaced training contract sponsored by a local congressionally funded agency. But as a small, African American, female owned business, friends and associates initially told her to

successful, but after evaluating her errors and spending long hours researching program details, she redesigned and resubmitted the proposal in 1994. In 1995, she was awarded the Title III contract to service southern Dallas County. She was one of only five agencies awarded the contract.

"I was told that only larger institutions in Dallas could write successful grant proposals for such a project," Bush said. When Bush left the incubator after three years and moved into a spacious 3,800 square foot office, she was armed with the knowledge and tools necessary for continued success. Above all things, she attributes her success to her faith in Jesus Christ, but also gratefully acknowledges the contribution of BIC.

For all the perks and services that come with being housed in the Business Incubation Center, the application process is surprisingly uncomplicated. First, you must be a small business, generally a sole proprietorship or partnership. You should have an assumed name certificate or articles of incorporation. Next, you must complete an application that asks you to list, among other things, basic business identification data, sources of capitalization and business credit references. A \$25 fee is required with the application form. BIC requires no stringent educational qualifications, nor is there a minimum or maximum revenue requirement. But it is crucial that applicants submit a well-researched, comprehensive business plan that includes an 18-month cash flow projection.

"[The business plan] is the main mechanism that triggers the thinking process," said Bando. "For a start-up [business], who knows what's going to happen next month? But just going through the exercise allows the business owner to think about what it's going to take to generate revenue in order to truly have a business," he continued. "They know what their expenses are going to be here. Hopefully they know what their expenses are going to be at home. So they pretty much know how much they need to make every month to break even."

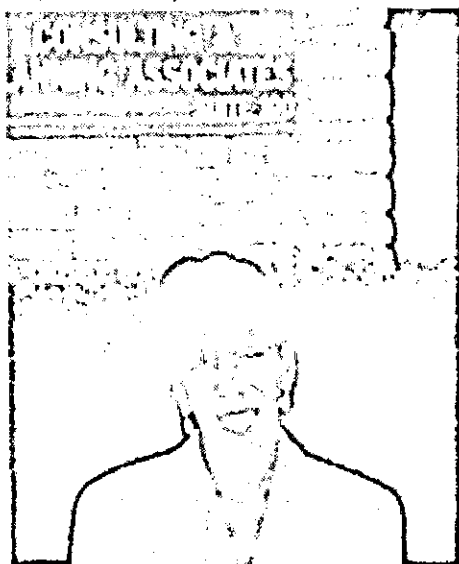
Just as important as preparing a business plan, Bando relies heavily on personal interviews to fill any gaps the business plan may leave. "This is a first grade opportunity for that business to sell something—and that's to me," he said. And that is exactly what James Bray and Archie Greer of Bray and Greer Staffing Consultants did. Originally, Bando was not impressed with their business plan. Noting weaknesses and suggesting changes, he returned the plan to Bray and Greer but did not get the desired results even when they made revisions. It wasn't until they met with Bando that they were able to satisfactorily communicate the intentions for their start-up organization.

Now in the incubator for three months, Bray and Greer Staffing Consultants have a clear direction for their fledg-

"Opportunities are all around us for business development, but I think it is important to have a place like the Bill Priest Institute where somebody who is thinking of [starting a business] or somebody who is trying it, but it's not quite working, can go and get help."

—Phillip Bando, mgr. Business Incubation Center

not even apply. Her first attempt to obtain the contract in 1993 was unsuccessful.



Jean Bush, standing in front of her business, Consulting & Planning Associates, is a BIC success story.

ling company. Bray, with his strong placement and staffing background and Greer, with his expertise in human resource administration, secured an exclusive contract with Kelly Temporary Service to resource people out to Kelly for specific job openings. Bray stresses that the business is not just another temporary employment service.

"Temporary services don't have the resources to find enough people to fill their positions, but [Bray and Greer] can find them. We resource people from the entire city. Unless you have the contacts and unless you have the resources to bring these people to you, then it really doesn't help to know who they are."

Even with all the resources offered by BIC, a few businesses still unnecessarily fall through the cracks. Therefore, Bando relies heavily on the initial meeting(s) with an applicant to establish rapport. By doing so, he believes if the business has a problem, they will seek his assistance without hesitation. "Most of the people who are starting businesses have been working somewhere but they haven't actually been conducting business themselves, so they're shy. They don't want anyone to know that they're having problems, but they're the ones the program can really help because the program is here to help people do business better. That's one of the anomalies here in the incubator. [The businesses] sometimes almost choke themselves to death,

needing help but being afraid to ask because of pride."

The success of BIC, Bando says, is determined by "the results observed while businesses are still in the incubator." When a business is ready to move out of the incubator, he knows why. Usually it is either because they have reached the four year occupancy limit or they are moving closer to their market or suppliers. He estimates that 87% of the businesses that leave do so as viable entities, still conducting business. Their chances to continue in the marketplace, Bando says, are well above average.

Of all the details businesses must learn while in the incubator, Bando believes marketing is the most significant. "I'm sure you'll get an operations person to say that financial record keeping is the most important, but it's not. Understanding marketing and how it works is the key element because if you have no customers, you've got no business," he said. "You're selling yourself before you sell your product."

"Marketing is extremely important, especially today, because there are so many people in the business arena who weren't ten years ago. Fifteen million people have full-time home-based businesses and it's grown about 7-8% a year for the last 4-5 years. The only way you're going to establish your relationships is through marketing and networking, because without it you've got no business," continued Bando.

"Opportunities are all around us for business development, but I think it is important to have a place like the Bill Priest Institute where somebody who is thinking of [starting a business] or somebody who is trying it, but it's not quite working, can go and get help."



James Bray (above), and his partner Archie Greer, of Bray and Greer Staffing Consultants, are in their third month of incubation at BIC.

MON

The Bill J. Priest Institute for Economic Develop-

ment is located at 1402 Corinth St., Dallas, TX 75215. For information on programs and services, call (214) 860-5803 or visit the Institute. To learn more about the Business Incubation Center, call Phillip Bando at (214) 860-5851.

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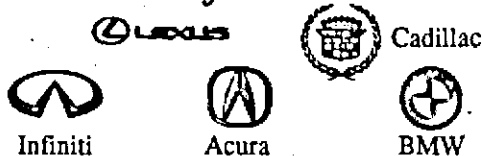
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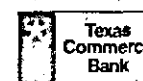
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Blacks in film

Part 2

By Russell D. Shockley, B.S.Ed.

In 1916, the first showing of a Lincoln Motion Picture Company production outside of the state of California took place in Omaha, Neb., where the thriving, white motion picture establishment was already catering to an eager black moving-going clientele.

The film, *The Realization of a Negro's Ambition*, was also shown in many churches, schools, and institutions, including the famous Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

The success of the company's first release resulted in strong demand for another Lincoln film. At the time, the public's attention was focused upon the Carrizal Incident, which occurred during the Mexican War. The incident involved a battle in which Troops K and C of the United States' famous all black Fighting 10th Cavalry were nearly wiped out. In order to take advantage of the built-in publicity factor, Lincoln decided that its next release would be based on that famous battle.

Troopers of Company K was the second Lincoln release. For the production of this film, Lincoln was able to secure a number of ex-cavalry troopers of the 9th and 10th. Lincoln also hired Mexican cowboys and horses. From the firms in Hollywood that routinely supplied the big film companies, Lincoln was able to rent guns, uniforms and cannon—in short, they hired everything they needed to equip the blacks and Mexicans for their soldier roles.

The film was shot on location a few miles outside of Los Angeles, in San Gabriel, utilizing sandy creek beds which resembled a natural Mexican background. Over 300 extras were used in the production.

'Troopers' opened for a week's run to a near capacity audience at the all-black New Angelus Theatre in Los Angeles, in 1916. Booking orders for the picture came in from exhibitors across the United States who catered to black patronage. It played to capacity houses from Chicago to Oakland. In New Orleans it broke all records and was even shown to mixed audiences at the New Ivy and People's Theatres, two white theatres that had never before shown a film produced by and featuring blacks.

By 1917, the Lincoln Motion Picture Company had produced its third film, *The Law of Nature*. This film, like the first two productions, enjoyed nationwide

success.

The Law of Nature was the last film that Noble Johnson starred in for the Lincoln Motion Picture Company. He resigned in 1918.

During that same year, however, the national demand for Lincoln pictures was so great that Lincoln decided to establish a general booking office closer to the majority of black theatres, located in Omaha. George P. Johnson, (brother of Noble Johnson) was asked to become general booking manager for Lincoln. At the time he became associated with Lincoln, George P. Johnson was employed as the first black clerk in the Omaha post office. He agreed to accept the job and

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Promotional literature for an upcoming Lincoln Motion Picture Company film.

performed his duties as general booking manager during his off-duty hours from the post office.

Johnson, from his office at 3612 North 29th Street, was able to successfully establish additional branch offices in Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Atlanta, St. Louis and New Orleans.

The second major task for George Johnson was to establish a system whereby smaller theatres, which could not afford to pay Lincoln's weekly rates, could also book Lincoln films. Johnson solved this problem by employing two traveling representatives. The advance man would carry a film to a town and screen it for the manager of a theatre after the regular show. If the manager liked the film, they would close a deal, usually on a 60-40 split—Lincoln would get 60 percent of the gross receipts and supply the film and some literature while the theatre manager would get 40 percent to show the film and was responsible for posting promotional literature such as billboard lithograph posters. The advance man would set dates weeks ahead, and on the day of the showing the second represen-

tative would arrive with the film. He would collect Lincoln's share of the gate receipts and, after the showing of the film, would go on to the next town, following the advance man. In this manner Lincoln films were shown in many small towns all over the country.

As a result of George Johnson's success in completing his first two major tasks as general booking manager, Lincoln Motion Picture Company established the first national film booking organization owned and operated by blacks.

In 1918, Colonel Edwin B. Winans of the U. S. 10th Cavalry, stationed at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., gave Lincoln Motion Picture Company authority to produce a newsreel of the famous horse soldiers. Johnson and cameraman Harry Gant spent three days at the 10th Cavalry's headquarters making a film which was later shown in black theatres all over the United States and the Hawaiian Islands.

Lincoln released *A Man's Duty* in 1919, featuring Clarence Brooks, who accompanied the picture on its road-show tour. Brooks' trip lasted eleven months and included stops in Nassau (Bahamas) and Cuba, where it played to packed houses. In Atlanta the picture set attendance records at the "81 Theatre," the "Auditorium Theatre" and the "91 Theatre."

In 1921, the company released By

Right of Birth. The film was first shown at the Trinity Church Auditorium on Grand Avenue in Los Angeles, with ticket prices ranging from 75 cents to \$1.50.

In 1923, the company announced that its next production would be *The Heart of a Negro*. A few weeks after the announcement, Lincoln Motion Picture Company inexplicably discontinued operations. George P. Johnson returned to Los Angeles, where he completed 37 years as a postal employee and compiled an extensive collection of information pertaining to blacks in movies.

MON

Russell D. Shockley is the director of Ethnic Notes. For lecture or presentation information, call or write Ethnic Notes, c/o MON.



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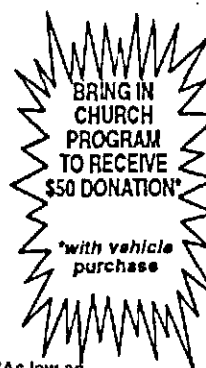
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Umphrey Lee Elementary, United States Air Force and Minority Opportunity News Team Up for Literacy

At a time when children choose role models from gun-toting entertainers and capricious athletes, the folks at Umphrey Lee Elementary School have decided to aim higher.

The predominantly African American elementary school located in South Oak Cliff is launching an academic and social mentoring program in collaboration with the United States Air Force (USAF) and *Minority Opportunity News* (MON). The program's aim is to bring the students in contact with positive black role models.

Initially, the mentoring program will focus on raising the academic performance and modifying the inappropriate social behavior of 5th and 6th grade boys. "Many of these young men have been referred to the counselor or vice principal for behavior problems," said Herbert Newsome, principal of Umphrey Lee Elementary School. "Hopefully, this pro-

gram will lessen some of those negative behavior problems." involved in their upbringing. "They've gotten a little bit older and they're getting ready to go to middle school," he said. "If we don't get the kids turned around in their attitudes and behavior, then they won't finish [school]. But this program is not just to help with behavior, it's to help improve their academic performance as well."

Thurman Jones, publisher of *MON*, and Umphrey Lee teacher Alfreda Cannon initiated this pivotal collaborative project. "As a publisher, I am a staunch proponent of literacy and education," said Jones. "MON is supporting this program by making sure that others know about it and can use it as a model in their own schools or churches or anywhere children are at risk of failing because they have so few models of success."

Jones, *MON* editor Chris Pryer, and other *MON* staff members will regularly participate in the program by attending planning meetings, serving as tutors and mentors and

closely monitoring the progress of the students involved.

"We sometimes hear that African Americans are not well-read," Jones said.

"We're here to dispel that notion and to make sure that we help create a genera-

present and future of kids who need it most.

In the meantime, additional meetings have been planned between Umphrey Lee, USAF, and *MON* to put the finishing touches on the program before its inception this month.

The three organizations must decide how to measure the quality of the program as well as determine how to quantitatively measure the results. Newsome

"If we don't get the kids turned around in their attitudes and behavior, then they won't finish [school]. But this program is not just to help with behavior, it's to help improve their academic performance as well."

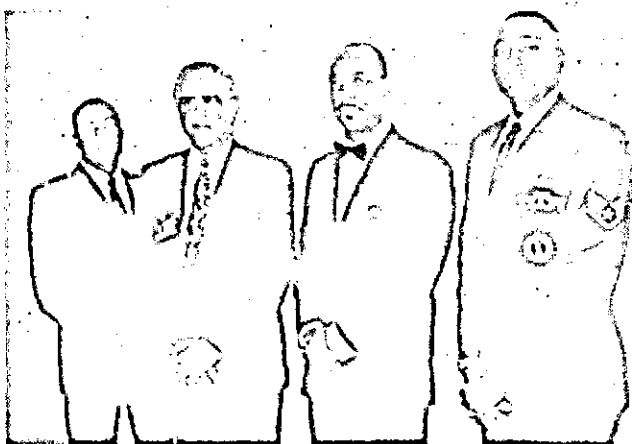
-Herbert Newsome, principal, Umphrey Lee Elementary School

anticipates that improved TAAS scores, better grades, and fewer visits to the vice principal will initially serve as criteria for the program's success.

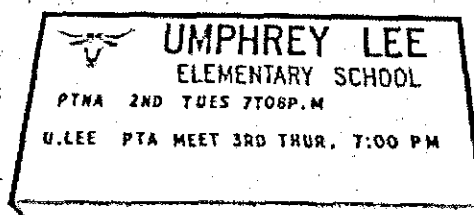
But the organizers are also looking a ways to measure the long-term effects of the student's interaction with the men who will serve as strong African American role models.

"If the children become positive contributors of our society," said Stanford, "then that's the best thing we can do."

MON



From left to right: Captain Leland G. Stanford, USAF; Herbert Newsome, principal, Umphrey Lee Elementary School; Thurman Jones, publisher, *Minority Opportunity News*; Sgt. Greg Ceaser, USAF.



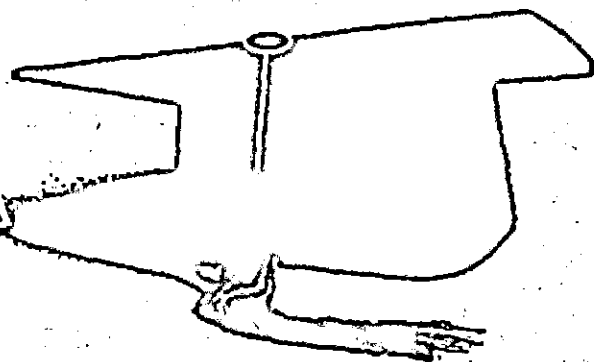
tion of kids that are inquisitive and eager to learn and read.

At an earlier meeting of the program's organizers, student (both boys and girls) stood in awe as uniformed airmen were escorted by Newsome through the halls of the school. Aside from Newsome, four male faculty members, and two male custodians, the more than 60 remaining faculty and staff members are women. Therefore, USAF Captain Leland Stanford knew from the beginning what a favorable effect his staff would leave on the impressionable boys.

"Speaking for myself, one of the strongest people in my upbringing was my father," said Stanford. "I understand that seeing strong black men will have the biggest impact on these kids. There are fewer two parent homes and [this program] is an opportunity to provide leadership and knowledge and a positive change in our community."

The 12 airmen who have volunteered to participate are excited about getting involved. All are from different areas of the country and see the mentoring program as a chance for them to bond with the community and to shape the

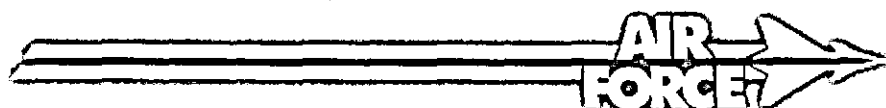
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Networking

Making contacts is still the life's blood of businesses, social organizations

By Marty R. Davidson

Networking is heralded as a means to the fast track for a successful and productive career in business and society. There are many groups throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex established to accomplish this goal. These groups promote everything from small businesses to family unity to social change. UMOJA, African American Family, African American Women's Network and New Image Business Associates are four networking organizations based throughout the Metroplex that are designed to meet the diverse needs of the African American community.

UMOJA was founded in 1993 in Fort Worth by Ricky Clark, Anthony Pickett and Gary Ivory. "The organization's purpose is to develop, implement and coordinate programs for intervention for at-risk children. "[We] target African American boys specifically because negative images of the [black] male are constantly

portrayed in media and other aspects of society. In order for a boy to be a man, he must see a man," said Clark.

Fatherhood Conference, Three-on-Three Basketball Tournament and First Breakfast are several of the programs that UMOJA holds during the year. The conference and tournament are held annually. First Breakfast is held on the second Tuesday of every month at different elementary schools throughout the area. "Members of the organization have

with an African American male," Clark said.

UMOJA meets every Thursday at Branches' Educational Center in Fort Worth. For additional information contact the center at 5133 Witchia Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76119 or (817) 536-8248.

African American Family, founded in 1994, is an organization based in the Southlake, Grapevine and Keller areas to promote interaction between African American families. "The organization

was founded because our children had a real need to be around children who looked like them and had things in common with them," said Carita Weaver, one of the organization's founding members. "My children were trying to do things with their hair they could not do and did not

seem to be proud of their appearances. It was very important for them to be around other children that looked like

them and to know they are just as beautiful as everybody else," she said.

The group holds an annual picnic the last weekend in September. "We try to plan activities for family interaction for the children as well as the parents," Weaver said. "We provide support and interaction for each other." Currently, fifty families are part of the organization.

The organization is open to all families who want to interact with other African American families. For additional information contact Carita Weaver at (817) 421-2400 or Ann Farris at (817) 329-1133.

African American Women's Network (AAWN) was founded in 1992 in Fort Worth. The organization's mission is to provide a system of interconnection to share ideas, develop networking skills and increase the awareness of resources available for African American women according to Latonya Smith, AAWN's president elect.

"It is a support team for women to find a mentor or friend who understands and to provide economic empowerment for the membership," she said. The vision of the organization is to create an environment conducive to enhancing growth through entrepreneurial skills and the development of African American women of all ages.

NAN (Networking at Night) and Luncheon are two of the events held by



Members of UMOJA give the power salute.

breakfast with the kids; there is no counseling or tutoring. It is the interaction that is important—having a meal together

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Individuals and minority- and women-owned businesses are encouraged to submit proposals, now being accepted at all City of Dallas recreation centers. Call the Dallas Park and Recreation Department at (214) 670-8847 or (214) 670-1923 for details!



the organization. NAN is a quarterly event held for members to meet at night. The group's luncheon is held the fourth Thursday of each month. For additional information about AAWN, call (972) 647-5933.

provide networking among and for our members that other organizations did not provide for its African American members," he stated.

Small Business Luncheon, Owl Night, and M.O.S.T. are some of the networking and development opportunities provided for the membership by the organization. The luncheon is held every Wednesday at the Bill Priest Institute, 1402 Corinth St., Room 202. Owl Night is a quarterly event held for networking at night. According to Akinmulero, the night's purpose is to gain contacts and receive knowledge through networking.

Newly elected officers are being sworn in at an African American Women's Network meeting.

New Image Business Associates is a Dallas-based organization made up of professionals and small business owners and established in 1991 by Sanmi Akinmulero. "There are 348 members in the organization and 95% of the membership are small business owners," said Akinmulero. "The organization was created to

purpose is to gain contacts and receive knowledge through networking.

M.O.S.T.'s (Minority Opportunity Success Training) primary goal is to serve as an educational vehicle for small business entrepreneurs who are posturing their business for sustained economic

growth, profitability and advancement. It is in its third year and is sponsored by Bank of America. For additional information about this organization, call (214) 350-9590.

If your goal is to become a mentor, small business owner or have interaction with other African Americans, please contact the above organizations. They will be happy to have you as a member.

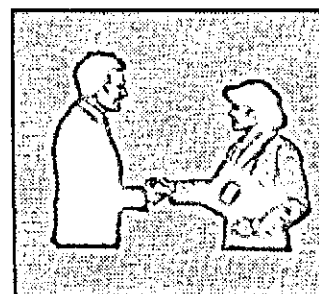
MON

What leading attorney in the country argued a metaphysical case concerning whether another attorney was a Christian and able to practice before a Christian court of law? Coming in MON's December issue.



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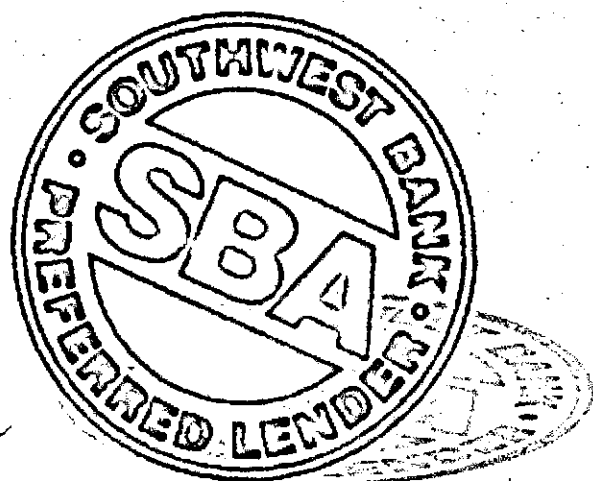
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Internet provider builds urban paradise

By Cheryl L. Williams

What started as a hobby in Kevin Berry's garage has now turned into a noble obsession. He wants to build a special community—in cyberspace.

With the escalating popularity of the Internet, Berry dreams of getting urban America on-line. The forum: NAOMI (National Access for Online Minority Information), a full service Internet provider, specializing in Web page design. NAOMI allows individuals,

agencies and businesses to use their computer to access a wealth of local, national, and international information that includes business profiles, bid and grant news, alumni and organization news, political forums, sports, music, films...and the list goes on. Berry is also leading an effort to establish a wire service among the African American press.

"If you look on our website, you'll see that there is an index of what NAOMI has to offer, which is everything from art to world news to everything in between," he says. "We make it easy so that even the

novice user can get on-line with us and navigate themselves around the 'Net'."

Right now, visitors to NAOMI's home page (<http://www.Naomi.com>) can easily link to, among other things, KKDA radio, Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce, Dallas Area Rapid Transit, National Alliance of Black Schools, Dallas Public Schools, bulletin boards, newsgroups and a chat room. Because Berry previews all the sites his community links to, you can be assured that you or your child will not stumble onto offensive or inappropriate literature and pictures.

In addition, Berry provides Web pages for businesses and individuals at a price that consistently beats the competition. "Our designs are creative and unique with colorful graphics and animation," he said.

Although NAOMI's home page can be accessed using any

Internet provider, there are certain advantages to using NAOMI as the primary Internet provider over services such as America Online or Microsoft Network. "We have a specific community to reach out to", says Berry.

TOP SECRET!

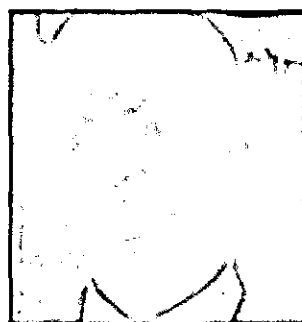
Name: Kevin Berry
Birthplace: Moorestown, N.J.
Favorite Food: "Philly" Cheese steak
Last Book Read: "The Audacity to Survive" by Dr. Rhett James

My friends don't know that: I'm on the board of directors of St. Philip's School's Neighborhood Development Corporation.

Advice to would-be entrepreneurs:

Do something you enjoy and believe in so that you will have the energy and perseverance to continue.

NAOMI Enterprises
1950 Stemmons, Suite 5001
Dallas, Tx 75207
(214) 746-5029
E-mail: Kevin@Naomi.com



"If you want your Web page to get noticed, it's best to be part of a community. It's one thing to have an Internet address but if you have an address and no one knows it, what good does it do?"

Therefore, any business or organization that needs to mass market its services or products or needs quick access to a variety of information would be well-advised to take advantage of all that

NAOMI and the Internet has to offer.

"With the Internet becoming the number one form of media, you'll find that we have as many visitors to our Internet site as some of the larger national magazines," says Berry. "If you want your organization out in front of tens of thousands of people daily, the Internet is the way to do it."

MON

"Auto Loans"

by: Frank Levell, Banking Center Manager, Energy Plaza

Buying a car is not an easy task. There are so many things to consider -- safety, style, comfort and price. As you make those choices, don't forget one more that could save you hundreds of dollars -- your auto loan.

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So as you're out kicking the tires of your new vehicle, remember NationsBank has an auto loan that may save you money.

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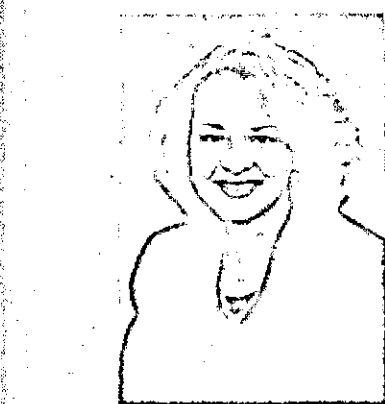
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In The News . . .

Fulgham Named Community Reinvestment Officer for Compass

Michon W. Fulgham was appointed vice president of community reinvestment services for Compass Bank in the Dallas/Ft. Worth metroplex.

Fulgham has been in Dallas banking for sixteen years and has worked with community investment programs. Previously, she was a community affairs advisor with the Federal Reserve Bank in Dallas, and earlier, was a field services officer with the National Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation.



Michon Fulgham

"We are pleased to welcome Michon to Compass," said George L. Sherling,

president of Compass Bank. "Compass is committed to the communities we serve, including low-to-moderate income areas. The entire community benefits when neighborhoods are revitalized," he added.

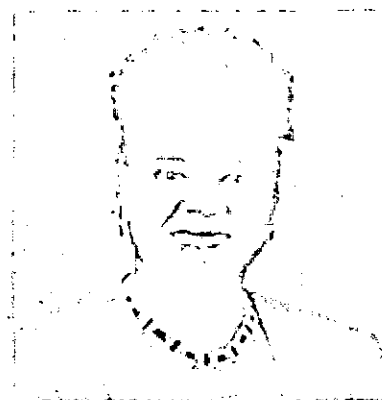
Fulgham is a director of the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Rotary Club of Dallas, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Papers Institute, Women in Finance and the Stanford Alumni Association.

Attaway Makes New Home at OmniAmerican as Asst. Vice President

Terri Attaway has been named Assistant Vice President-Mortgage Services of OmniAmerican Federal Credit Union.

Ms. Attaway brings her knowledge and expertise to OmniAmerican from F&L Mortgage Bankers, where she served as manager of loan processing/loan appraising and was responsible for the overall profitability of the branch office. As AVP-Mortgage Services, her responsibilities include implementing various mortgage lending programs to diversify OmniAmerican's mortgage product lines, such as affordable housing.

Ms. Attaway holds a B.B.A. in



Terri Attaway

Finance from Texas Tech University and has a solid background in multiple aspects of the real estate industry. With ten years of mortgage investment experience, Ms. Attaway will be a valuable asset to OmniAmerican.

Churchs Chicken/Habitat For Humanity "Day of Dreams" in Dallas

Churchs Chicken celebrated its Fourth Annual "Day of Dreams" fundraiser on September 18, 1996 benefiting Habitat for Humanity with 58 local stores participating.

More than 650 restaurants participated across the U.S. to raise funds to build homes for underprivileged families in urban communities. To date, more than \$500,000 has been raised for Habitat for Humanity by the "Day of Dreams" program at Churchs nationwide.



(L-R) Dallas City Councilman Robert Stimson; Churchs Chicken Zone Director of Operations, Lyndon Johnson; Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk; and Habitat for Humanity Executive Director Jim Pate celebrate "Day of Dreams" in Dallas

Miss Kuumba Heritage Scholarship Pageant Underway

The Kuumba Heritage News, headquartered in Greenville Texas is in search of a Queen to represent their newspaper for the Northeast Texas area. There will be a \$1,000 scholarship presented to the winner of the top place.

Pageant categories range from age 2 to 22 years old. Anyone interested can send a self-addressed stamped envelope by the contest deadline of October 15, 1996 to Miss Kuumba Heritage Scholarship Pageant, Attention: Mrs. Theresa Thrash, P.O. Box 298, Greenville, Texas 75042.

"There will be no swim suit category and the whole pageant will be done in a wholesome family type atmosphere," promises Mrs. Thrash, the Pageant Director. "Girls will be judged primarily on their personality and the interpretation and presentation of their concept of being an African American woman in 1996," she added.

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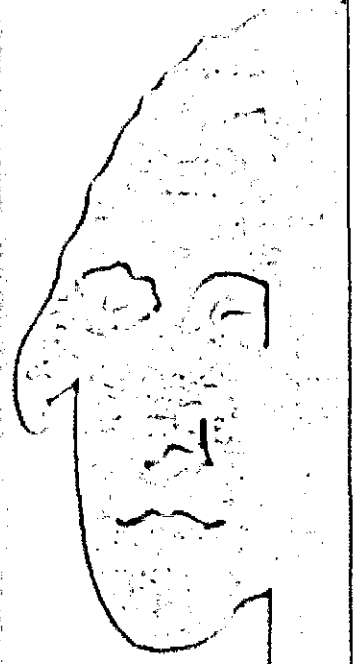
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More In The News

Sandra Daniels Hosts Community Affairs Program

Award winning journalist Sandra Daniels is the host of the metroplex's newest community based television program, DFW Close Up which airs Sundays at 6:00 a.m. on KDAF, WB33.

Daniels is news director of KRBV-FM (V100) and is heard daily as part of the station's popular morning show. She previously hosted Insights on KDFW-TV in Dallas. During her 3 1/2 year career hosting Insights, the program was recognized with several awards including two women in Communications Matrix Awards, the Dallas Junior League's Partners in Community Awareness, an award from the State PTA Council and a Griot award from the Dallas/Ft. Worth Association of Black Communicators.

DFW Close Up will be a forum for community issues of all types including drug abuse, gang violence, race relations, growth and development, women's issues and education. Problems will be



Sandra Daniels

examined and solutions discussed. The show will also celebrate success stories and spotlight the people who make Dallas/Ft. Worth a great place to live. Each show will encore Sunday night/Monday morning at 1:00 a.m.

UTA Names Interim Director of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Programs

Diane L. Walker was promoted to Interim Director of the University of Texas at Arlington's Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Programs. She had been a coordinator in that program since 1993.

"I am very pleased that Diane Walker was willing to serve as Interim Director of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action," said Robert Witt, president of UTA. "Her expertise in our EO/AA office, her knowledge of EO/AA regula-

tions and her commitment to both the letter and spirit of Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action make her well qualified for the appointment."

Ms. Walker has been with the University since 1984. She currently serves on



Diane L. Walker

several committees including the University of Texas System's Advancement of Women Committee and is a member of the American Association for Affirmative Action.

Vernell Sturns named Senior Vice President, Public Sector Products, for Harris Methodist Health Plan

Vernell Sturns was named Senior Vice President, Public Sector Products, for Harris Methodist Health Plan.

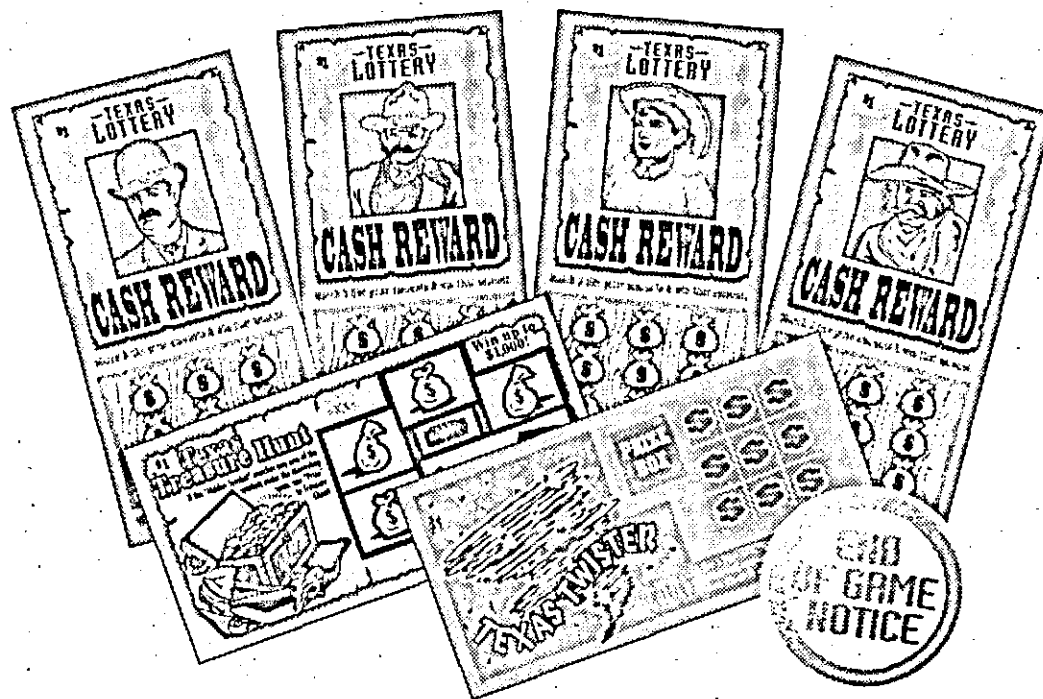
Sturns will be responsible for developing and implementing managed care products for Medicaid and public sector markets, including designing new products, enhancing present systems and assessing the current market in view of upcoming changes, reforms and new competition in this government products marketplace.

With more than 25 years of experience in management positions, Sturns most recently served as President/CEO of Fairview Title Company. Prior to that posi-

tion, Sturns worked as executive director for the Dallas-Ft. Worth International Airport from 1991 through 1994. He also has served the city of Ft. Worth since 1973 in many capacities including senior assistant city manager/acting city manager from 1982 through 1985.

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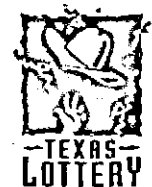


These games are about to hit the trail. Head out of town. Ride into the sunset. No matter how you say it, this is your last chance to play before they're over. All three games will end October 1, 1996. But you can still purchase any remaining tickets or claim any prizes until March 29, 1997.

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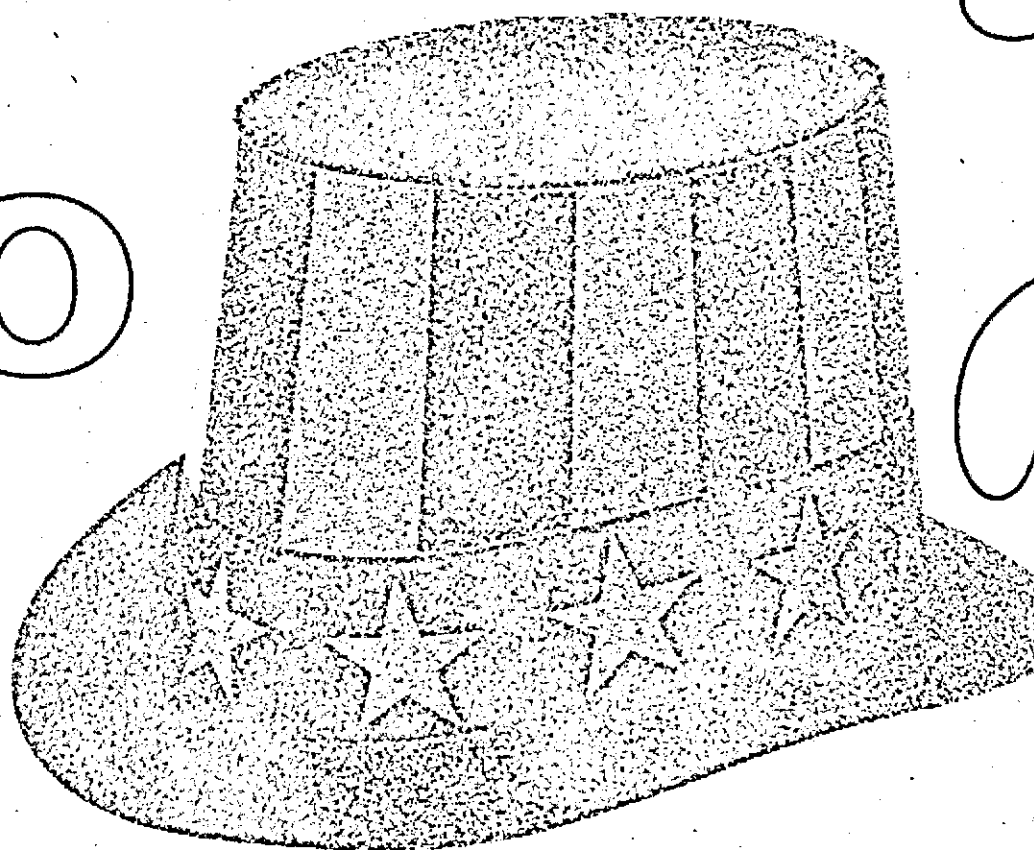
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Overall odds of winning in *Cash Reward*, 1 in 4.67. Overall odds of winning in *Texas Treasure Hunt*, 1 in 4.63. Overall odds of winning in *Texas Twister*, 1 in 4.68. Must be 18 years or older to play. ©1996 Texas Lottery

Gateway

to



By
Cheryl Smith

Freedom?

**African American leaders gather in St.
Louis to form a Black political agenda**

The St. Louis political convention is for all oppressed people

By Thomas Muhammad

Now that the Democratic, Republican and Reform Party conventions are done and the 1996 presidential campaigns get into full swing, organizers of the Million Man March are converging on the city of St. Louis, Mo., for what some are calling a Black Convention but what really is a Convention for the Oppressed. The convention is a follow-up to the Million Man March and according to the Rev. Ben Chavis, co-convenor of the March, is expected to lay a framework for political and economic empowerment of oppressed people leading into the 21st century. The convention was called for last year by Minister Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam and co-convenor of the Million Man March, and Chavis, director of Million Man March Inc. and the National African American Leadership Summit.

The goal of the convention is to fashion an agenda for those dissatisfied with politics as usual, to speak to economic and social justice for the masses. It is commonly stated these days by most civil rights nationalist and progressive leaders that African Americans have made tremendous gains in educating the American populace to the problems that people of color face in the country simply because they were born of a different hue. Most civil rights, nationalist and progressive leaders also acknowledge that African Americans hold many prominent positions at nearly all levels of government and in corporations. And nearly all of them note that the possibilities are unlimited for young children of color, more so than a few years ago. However, all of these civil rights, nationalist and progressive leaders express one agreed upon point without any hesitation: that is that something must be done to bring that same success to the masses.

The Million Man March proved beyond a shadow of a doubt that the masses will come if the right message is conveyed. It proved that the masses were hungry for unity, love, strength, appreciation, courage, commitment and compassion. And yet it proved that

For years the discussion of forming and implementing a Black Agenda has been like a quiet but increasingly bothersome rumble throughout the African American community. Seeming to gain momentum, but always coming to a halt.

Because for most, the talk about developing a Black Agenda, was just that—talk.

African American "leaders," in a constant battle for the microphone and media coverage, have been unable to reach a consensus that would move their people forward. Although there were prior attempts to bring together Black people for a political convention, numerous problems plagued anyone attempting such an endeavor. Did egos play a role in the faltering efforts? Could a group of African American "leaders" jockeying for position put aside their individual goals for the good of their people? Whatever or whoever the problem, some considered the notion of a Black National Convention to be just that—a notion.

Then, this year, following that historic Million Man March where over a million Black men converged on the nation's capital, Nation of Islam minister Louis Farrakhan and the Rev. Ben Chavis, National African American Leadership Summit chief, called for a Black National Convention.

The time had come. It was time for the talkers to move to action.

The first step, and stop, was in Chicago in the summer of 1996. Organizers say the National Hearing on Issues and Public Policy was held at Kennedy King College in an effort to "gather input of tens of thousands of our people who are engaged in the day to day struggle on the local, regional, national and international levels."

"The National Hearing on Issues and Public Policy served to facilitate a formal and systematic drafting of an outline of the most crucial concerns impacting our quality of life," explained Rev. Chavis.

In a statement regarding the national agenda, Chavis said, "Reiterating the Million Man March and Day of Absence Mission Statement, we state that we are: Conscious

of the critical juncture of history in which we live and the challenges it poses for us; concerned about increasing racism and the con-

tinuing commitment to white supremacy in this country; recognizing that the country and government have made a dangerous and regressive turn to the right and are producing policies with negative impact on people of color, the poor and the vulnerable; declaring our commitment to assume a new and expanded responsibility in the struggle to confront all systems of injustice."

This draft of the national agenda will be presented to delegates and will be the focus of the Black National Convention held September 27 through 29 in St. Louis. Including hundreds of registered delegates, the Black National Convention will bring together thousands from across the United States.

This convention is the first of its kind, said organizers. It will not be about personalities; it will be about issues. A political convention for African American people and other oppressed folk, forming a national agenda and addressing the issues. An attainable goal, organizers maintained.

"Our goal is to transform the political system by practicing the principle of self-determination and by affirming a God-centered, spirit-filled, mass movement

See AGENDA next page

See ST. LOUIS on page 21

AGENDA from page 19

for empowerment," said Rev. Chavis.

"We do not intend to allow our interests to be ignored or sacrificed during the current national political debate. While our initial focus is on the plight and condition of African Americans, the National Agenda 1996 is broad enough to embrace some of the issues and public policy that coincide with the interests of Latino, Asian, Pacific Islander, Native and Arab Americans, and others who have been oppressed."

Rev. Chavis said the delegates will ratify a national agenda with "our own position on the public policy that affects our quality of life."

Additionally, three issues of utmost importance, said Rev. Chavis, are dealing with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency's "role in bringing cocaine into African American communities around the United States; the economic reconstruction of our communities, linking political empowerment with economic development; and health care."

According to Rev. Chavis, organizers expect to see the fruits of their labor at the polls this year as they anticipate a large Black and Hispanic voter turnout.

"We should be clear on what we're voting for, in addition to who we're voting for," he emphasized.

For months prior to the convention, members of the Muhammad's Mosque No. 48, under the leadership of Minister Jeffery Muhammad, worked to increase public awareness about the convention. "We knew we couldn't count on the mainstream media to get the information out to our people. Just like the Democratic, Republican and Reform Conventions did not address our issues, the mainstream media refuses to give coverage to our people

and our causes."

He continued: "It was the same with the Million Man March. Thanks to the Black press, we were able to get the word out and let people know about the wonderful works of the Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan."

During a recent interview, Rev. Chavis stressed the important role the Black press played and continues to play in disseminating information about the National African American Leadership Summit and the Million Man March Local Organizing Committees around the country.

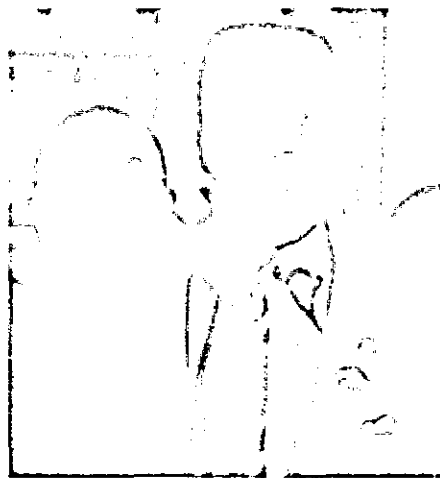
"The Black press was very instrumental in the success of the Million Man March. In fact, mainstream got involved very late in the whole process, after they had no other choice!"

Nana Irene Moorehead met with Rev. Chavis during his recent trip to talk

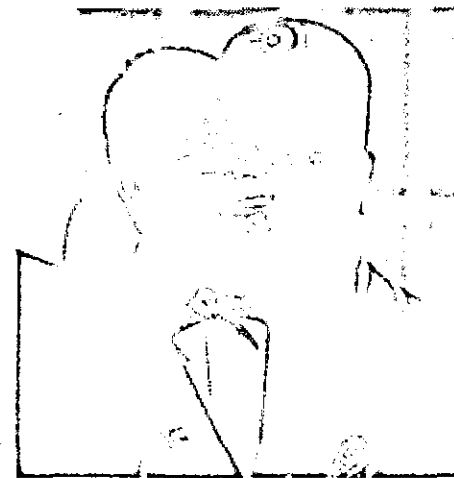
"Our goal is to transform the political system by practicing the principle of self-determination and by affirming a God-centered, spirit-filled, mass movement for empowerment."

Rev. Ben Chavis, National African American Leadership Summit

with the Dallas Million Man March Local



The Rev. Ben. Chavis



Minister Louis Farrakhan

Organizing Committee members about the convention. Mrs. Moorehead said she was really excited about the meeting and having the opportunity to work with Mr. Chavis.

"It was an honor to be selected to be a delegate," said Mrs. Moorehead.

As one of the senior members of the Dallas LOC, Mrs. Moorehead has been very involved in implementing national programs on the local level.

"This is a very important conference and I believe in the goals of the LOC and the National African American Leadership Summit.

"This is about African people doing for themselves. I've always believed that the only way we are going to be able to help ourselves is by doing for ourselves and that's what Minister Farrakhan preaches," she added.

She and local author Talibah Fola-mi Modupe traveled to St. Louis on a bus chartered specifically for the convention. Representing the Fellowship of Afrikan Studies, the two women are

also members of the Million Man March Local Organizing Committee.

A large delegation was expected from the Dallas/Fort Worth area and organizers weren't disappointed.

"This is one of many events that is important to Black people," explained Tariq Jones, regarding his decision to close up shop and head out of town for four days.

Mr. Jones is the owner of Afro Awakenings Bookstore in Arlington. He paid his registration fees for the National Black Convention as soon as registration forms were available. He says he wants to be wherever Black people are trying to do something for their people.

"I was at the Million Man March, I'll be at the National Black Convention, and I'm making my plans now because I'll be at the Holy Day of Atonement in New York in October. "I want to be a part of the positive things happening in our community and with our people."

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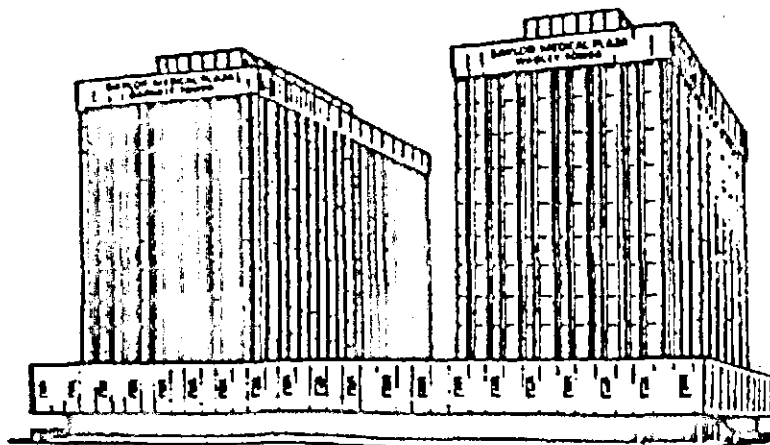
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ST. LOUIS from page 19

they didn't give a damn who called them to it! Brother Malcolm X once said, "I will work with anyone to help me get the beast's foot off my neck." That beast could be many things to many people and the Million Man March proved that nearly two million Black men had a beast's foot that they wanted help removing.

The goal of the convention is to fashion an agenda for those dissatisfied with politics as usual, to speak to economic and social justice for the masses..

The National Political convention could be the instrument to make that happen. And not just for African people, but Hispanics, Native Americans, Arab Americans, and yes, even poor and middle-class European Americans. The problems that we face as a nation know no color or gender. And as people see more and more jobs being exported overseas, as they see the U.S. creating more senseless wars, as they watch greedy rich individuals get richer and richer at the expense of the poor and middle-class, they will perhaps begin to question the true motives of the U.S. government and finally say, "Stop! Hold it! Time out! Enough is enough!"

We have no reason to fight and bicker among ourselves. The politicians have used us long enough as pawns in their political games. We can now see that is doesn't matter what your color, gender

or station in life is, this government only wants wealth and power. And they intend to get it by hook or crook. People only have to look at billionaire Ross Perot as an example that both the Democratic and Republican parties do not intend to share power with anyone.

Therefore, it is incumbent upon us who feel we have been locked out to create our own political machine and take over the politics in America. Those billions of dollars promised by the Libyan government represent a very strong beginning for not just African Americans, but for millions of poor and oppressed people throughout America. Because as most of us know, when African Americans are able to rise, other ethnic groups tend to do the same. Or as Rev. Jesse Jackson often quotes: "When one boat rises, all boats rise." Meaning, oppression anywhere is oppression everywhere.

Then there are some who remember the horrible experience of the 1972 National Black Convention in Gary, Ind. Co-conveners Amiri Baraka, professor of African Studies at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Gary (Ind.) mayor Richard Hatcher, then Rep. Charles Diggs (D-Mich.), and the late Rep. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (D-N.Y.) called for the convention because of their frustration with the Democratic party at that time. Most observers of the 1972 convention felt it was a failure. Or, as professor Baraka put it: "Ruthlessly self-serving political prostitutes rushed down to Miami to the Democratic National Convention where they sold everything out!"

The organizers of the St. Louis convention say they believe they have learned the lesson of Gary, where elected office holders were glamorized above recognizing grass roots political organizing among the disenchanted masses. One can only hope that, this time, they have.

MON

Clean South Dallas/Fair Park, Inc. Announces Annual Fall Clean Up/Silent Auction

Clean South Dallas/Fair Park, Inc., is soliciting volunteers and donations for its Annual Neighborhood Clean Up days on November 2 and 9, 1996.

The neighborhood beautification and anti-litter organization is also sponsoring a Silent Auction of great products and services, November 1, 1996 at the Clean South Dallas headquarters, 2809 Birmingham, Dallas, Texas.

If you can donate clean up equipment, serve on a Clean Up Team, help with surveying and identifying needs or donate items for the silent auction, please call (214) 421-1662. Together, we can make a difference in South Dallas.

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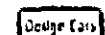
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Around Town

October 2

The Dallas Chapter of the Black Data Processing Associates (BDPA) is now accepting applications for students in grades 8-11 interested in participating in a training program for the 1997 National BDPA Computer Competition. Call Pete Davis on the BDPA voice mailbox at (214) 407-6895 to get an application or for more information.

October 4

Experience an African Harvest Festival from 6:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at the University of Texas at Dallas, School of Arts and Humanities, 2601 North Floyd Road, Richardson Texas. For more information, contact Ebon Ink at metro (817) 784-8344. *****

LaVida News, NationsBank, Henderson, Haskell and Cottongame, P.C., and Ozarka Water present the First Friday Business Network Mixer from 5:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Renaissance Center, 2100 Evans Avenue, Ft. Worth, TX. Journalist Bob Ray Sanders and Tarrant County Junior College Vice-Chancellor, Erma Johnson, are the honorary hosts. For more information call (817) 922-9999. *****

The 10th Annual Howard University Alumni Scholarship Tennis tournament will be held October 4-6 at the Keist Tennis Center, 2324 W. Keist Blvd., Keist Park, Dallas. For match times contact Susan Gardner at (214) 321-7325 or Keist Tennis Center at (214) 670-7618. For more information call Jim Austin at (817) 922-9999. *****

October 5

Councilman Al Lipscomb will be the featured speaker of the Monthly Men's Breakfast, 7:00 p.m. at First Christian

Methodist Evangelistic Church, 7575 South Hampton Rd., Dallas. For more information contact Barbara Pace Sears at (972) 283-1000 X 230. *****

FREE shots, special photo ID kits for children and their parents, and FREE health testing will be among the services available at the Annual Community Health Fair, 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., at the Dallas Veterans Affairs Medical Center (Recreation Center, Bldg. 45). Call (214) 376-5451 for more information. *****

Child care workers who need to satisfy all or part of the state's continuing education requirements can do so by participating in the Child Caregivers and Directors Update from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., October 5 and 12, and from 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, October 19 at Brookhaven College, 3939 Valley View Lane, Farmers Branch, Texas. Scholarships are available. Call (972) 860-4715 to register and for more information.

October 9

The Dallas Black Dance Theatre, Japanese-American choreographer June Watanabe, and Japanese Noh master Anshin Uchida come together to create a contemporary dance piece in its world premiere, October 9-12 at the Majestic Theater, downtown Dallas. Call (214) 871-2390 for show times and ticket prices.

October 10

The National Conference of Black Lawyers will hold its 28th Annual National Convention Oct. 10-14, at the Fairmont Hotel, Dallas. For more information contact Imhotep Alkebu-Ian President, Monomotapa Chapter-NCBL at (214) 426-2755.

J. California Cooper will read and autograph *Some Love, Some Pain, Sometime* from 6-8 p.m. at Black Images Books, 230 Wynnewood Village, Dallas, Texas. Call (214) 943-0142 or (800) 272-5027 for more information.

October 11

M.A.S.S. (Mothers (Fathers) for the Advancement of Social Systems, Inc.) and KwanzaaFest '96, along with the Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters presents the 1996 UMOJA MASS Justice Awards Ceremony featuring guest lecturer, Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr., ESQ., 7:45 p.m. at the Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 650 North Griffin, Dallas, TX. Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price and Ms. Cleo Glenn-Johnson, Executive Director of the Black United Fund of Texas, will host the event. For more information call (214) 653-6671 or (214) 371-2828. *****

Munger Avenue Baptist Church is hosting its Second Annual Awards Banquet, 7:00 p.m. at Dallas Baptist University's Banquet Hall, 3000 Mountain Creek Parkway, Dallas, TX. Guest emcee is Rev. Larry Freeman of the Gospel Train on KKDA AM. For more information call Vicki Washington at (214) 824-8312 or Teri Robinson at (214) 352-5701.

October 12

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1816 Routh Street presents Children of the World Arts Festival in Artist Square from 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by the Booker T. Washington Magnet School of the Arts and by children's and bell choirs from the Dallas area. For more information call Rev.

Linda Owen at (214) 922-0000. *****

Entertainer Patti LaBelle autographs *Don't Block the Blessings* from 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m., at Black Images Books, 230 Wynnewood Village, Dallas, Texas. Call (214) 943-0142 or (800) 272-5027 for more information. *****

Sisters About the Business of Living/Learning & Economics (SABLE) presents an Empowerment Workshop, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Oak Cliff Fine Arts Society, 401 N. Rosemont, Dallas. To register or for more information call S. Jordan at (214) 581-8011 or 1-888-581-8013. *****

A Drawing Delight will be held at the African American Museum at Fair Park in Dallas from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. For more information call (214) 565-9026.

October 13

Erma Platt, a local artist will be featured today from 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. at Art 4U by Linda located at 940 East Berry Street, Ft. Worth TX. For more information call Linda Nious at (817) 926-0520. *****

The Caravan of Dreams presents Grover Washington, Jr. at 7:00 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Reserved tickets are \$26. Call (817) 877-3000 for more information.

October 14

The North Dallas Area National Organization for Women (NOW) meets 7:00 p.m. the second Monday of each month at the Dallas North Unitarian Church, 2525 Custer Road in Plano. Leigh Ann Hawley will speak at

Around Town cont'd

the October meeting on the Dallas Housing Authority's mentoring program. For more information call our hotline at (972) 833-6810.

October 16

Basketball Legend Karriem Abdul-Jabbar autographs *Black Profiles in Courage: A Legacy of African American Achievements* from 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at Black Images Books, 230 Wynnewood Village, Dallas, Texas. Call (214) 943-0142 or (800) 272-5027 for more information.

October 17

Students from colleges and universities across Texas will meet to discuss the future role of minorities in higher education, politics, and the professional world during the 8th Annual Minority Student Leadership Conference October 17-19 at the University of Texas at Dallas Conference Center. Guests include John Wiley Price, Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, Victor Morales, and Rev. Frederick Haynes. For more information call (972) 883-6397.

October 18

Love Should Never Hurt! Domestic Violence is the topic of this month's discussion at THE LOVE CLINIC, an outreach ministry of Jubilee United Methodist Church. The Love Clinic, held the third Friday of each month from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at the church, 301 Frank Keasler Blvd., Duncanville, TX 75116, is FREE and open to the public. Child care is provided. For more information contact Rev. Dr. Sharon Patterson at (214) 283-2264. *****

ACORN, the Association of Community Organization for Reform Now, is sponsoring a Grassroots Organizing Training Weekend, October 18-20. Registration is \$70 for the weekend. Call (214) 823-4580 for an application. *****

The African American Museum at Fair Park, Dallas presents "Jazz Under the

Dome" from 8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. For more information call (214) 565-9026.

October 19

Masjid Ansar-Allah along with other Dallas/Ft. Worth area organizations will host a Leadership Awards Fundraising Banquet at the Ramada Plaza Hotel, 1011 S. Akard, downtown Dallas. For more information, call Imam Larry Amin Sharieff at metro (817) 654-1947. *****

Children of all ages are invited to a Storytelling Adventure entitled "Bright Eyes Brown Skin" & "Jamako and the Beanstalk" 10:00 a.m. at Diversity, Inc., 926 E. 15th, #106, Plano, TX. Treats will be given to all kids. RSVP by October 18 at (972) 424-8344. *****

The Irving African American Business Alliance, the Irving Black Chamber of Commerce, and the Irving Minority Business Development Center have teamed with Bright Futures Child Care Development Center to present their First Annual Small Business Expo and Fall Festival. The event will be held at Bright Futures Child Care Development Center, 1405 Katy Road, Irving, TX from noon until dusk. Guest speaker is Herschel Walker. Call (972) 888-8828 for more information. *****

The A. Maceo Smith Community Service Awards Brunch will be held at the African American Museum at 10:00 a.m. For more information call (214) 565-9026. *****

The Black United Fund of Texas, Inc. presents its Seventh Evening of African American Excellence-Achieving Against the Odds Through Self Help and Self Determination at the Doubletree Hotel, downtown Houston. For more information, call the Black United Fund at (713) 524-5767.

October 22

Art 4U by Linda located at 940 East Berry Street, Ft. Worth TX, presents Cappuccino Nite from 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Join us for poetry, cappuccino, and an art etiquette presentation. For more information call Linda Nious at (817) 926-0520.

October 24

Former U.S. surgeon general, Jocelyn Elders will discuss and autograph *Jocelyn Elders, M.D.: From Sharecroppers Daughter to Surgeon General of the United States* from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at Black Images Books, 230 Wynnewood Village, Dallas, Texas. Call (214) 943-0142 or (800) 272-5027 for more information.

October 25

Join the Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce in celebrating 70 years of constructive leadership during its 70th Annual Banquet at the Dallas Convention Center, East Ballroom, 650 S. Griffin St., Dallas, TX. For more information call (214) 421-5200. *****

St. Anthony School presents a Homecoming Gospelfest, 7:00 p.m. at the Saintsville Sanctuary Church on Marsalis Ave. in Dallas. Advance tickets are \$10.00. Call (214) 421-3645 for more information. *****

The Fort Worth-Tarrant County NAACP invites you to attend its 19th Annual Dr. George D. Flemmings Freedom Fund Banquet, 7:00 p.m. at the Will Rodgers Memorial Center, 1 Amon Carter Square, Ft. Worth, TX. For tickets and more information call 817-332-8919.

October 26

St. Anthony School presents its Fall Bazaar and Homecoming Celebration, noon today at the school located at 3732 Myrtle Street in South Dallas. Call (214)

421-3645 for more information. *****

October 27

St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1816 Routh Street, presents their Men's Day Musical Festival at 4:00 p.m. Sunday at the church. For more information call Rev. Linda Owen at (214) 922-0000.

October 28

The Hamilton Park United Methodist Church is hosting its Annual Fall Revival, October 28-30 in the main sanctuary located at 11881 Schroeder Road, Dallas. This year's theme is "Breaking Your Yokes Through God's Powerful Anointing." For more information call (214) 235-4633.

October 29

The Gwen Knight exhibit opens at the African American Museum. For more information call (214) 565-9026.

October 30

Job hunters looking for full and part-time employment might find their dream jobs during Metro Job Fair '96 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way. Job seekers should bring copies of their resumes to the event that will feature more than 200 employers. For more information contact Mary Beseda of the University of Texas at Dallas at (972) 883-2943.


ATTENTION:

If you're interested in placing your event in our *events* calendar, send it to us by mail or fax no later than the 21st of the month preceding publication.

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New voter could emerge in 1996

Texas Publishers Association wire service

By Cheryl Smith

There's an election on the horizon and it has some very interesting and "new" dynamics for consideration. Friday, October 5, 1996 will be the last day for you, the unregistered voter, to register to vote in the November 5 general election. An election that will produce the next president of these United States. And for those who are registered, there's nothing worse than having the answer and not knowing when the question is asked! The question will be asked very soon, and we'll see if all the proactive approaches will translate into higher returns at the polls.

According to Dallas County Elections Supervisor Toni Pippins-Poole, to date there has not been any significant increase in the number of voters since the primary election held in the spring.

"The numbers have stayed pretty constant," said Mrs. Pippins-Poole. "We haven't seen a noticeable increase in voters, although there has been an increase in registered voters, they just haven't

translated into votes."

This election, for many, appears to be one they can take or leave. And although numerous voter registration and voter education drives are being held in an attempt to increase voter participation, the man on the street is not finding any presidential candidate appealing. No Clinton, no Dole, no Perot, no justice for Black men and women in America seems to be the cry. Many feel as though there is no interest whatsoever in any of the issues affecting Black people, and thus, the Black political convention in St. Louis was born.

The Nation of Islam's involvement in the political process is new, and worthy of note. Thousands registered to vote at the Million Man March and many members of the Nation (for the first time ever), will cast their vote for a president (or for that matter, any elected official).

Many saw this day coming. They saw the Nation of Islam building from within, encouraging self-help among its membership. But they knew eventually that to deal with the many issues affecting Black people, there was a need to reach out and make a serious impact on those who, for so long, have set the policy, controlled our communities and ruled this world.

Some even wondered if Minister Louis Farrakhan would rise to the occasion and seek public office. But the min-

ister put those queries to rest at the National Association of Black Journalists' annual national convention, held this past August in Nashville, Tenn. The minister said he was too honest to be a politician. "I'm not a politician," he said. "You'll never hear a politician speak like I speak because they want votes. They want to be popular."

But there are plenty more who are stepping up and throwing their names into the arena, including a very full slate of candidates seeking to unseat 30th Congressional District incumbent Eddie Bernice Johnson, Ms. Johnson, who recently saw her district redrawn following a court decision striking down gerrymandering.

So possibly, with hotly contested races around the country, more and more voters will feel compelled to take a few minutes out of their busy schedules to cast that vote. And that's the message coming from so many at this time. The entertainers, athletes, politicians, teachers, and especially health care providers, are sounding the battle cry, urging folk to vote.

Although little or no attention was focused on the brother's efforts, even Tupac Amaru Shakur realized the importance of voting and he shared that information with his "fans." Brother Tupac wanted to put fear in the hearts of politi-

cians, Black and white, who he felt had taken the Black vote for granted for so long.

He realized that he was popular. His records, tapes and CDs were selling millions; therefore, he had to have some type of influence over the people who bought his music and saw his movies. Surely, Tupac thought and hoped, his influence at parties and clubs and in the streets could translate into votes at the polls.

You just never know.

One thing is apparent, however. Those who previously had never spoke out about voting are now making that plea. Could it be that so many are finally realizing the power of the ballot? Or could it be that many are tired of being oppressed, repressed, depressed, suppressed, unimpressed, unemployed, undereducated and totally forgotten?

Whatever the case, our foreparents knew the answer and it's about time we started acting like we had the common sense that came from our ancestors. And then we'll head out like those noble folk who came before us, and we'll do our research first, go to the polls, peruse that ballot carefully, forget about all the hype we've heard from the candidates, and work that process, so that eventually it might work for us.

MON

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Who was a staunch prohibitionist, insisting that "ignorance and whiskey cannot uplift a race"? Coming in MON's December issue.

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DART

Community based organizations, churches get vote out

Texas Publishers Association wire service
By Cheryl Smith

If there is one issue that seems to have mobilized the African American community, it appears to be the upcoming election. Another presidential election will occur in a few weeks and the media coverage is heavy, but various community leaders want voters to know that there are other candidates on the ballot and voters will impact the outcome.

This drive to register more voters has been the catalyst for pulling together elected officials, religious groups and community-based organizations in the African American community.

When the Rev. Barry A. Jackson of Munger Avenue Baptist Church began looking for ways to get African American voters to the polls, he called a meeting at the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. He asked organizations to join with area churches in a collective effort to get the vote out.

"The purpose of this meeting is to discuss a cooperative relationship between organizations and the local churches in getting the vote out for the November election," read a communique

from Rev. Jackson.

The Dallas Urban League is one of the organizations joining in with Munger Avenue Baptist Church.

"The Dallas Urban League continues to stress the importance of voter education, voter registration and voter participation," said Dr. Beverly Mitchell-Brooks, President/CEO of the Dallas Urban League. "Not only will we be working throughout the community, we're also in the schools." Dr. Brooks added that during the last week before the registration deadline for the November 5 general election, Dallas Urban League officials will be in the schools registering students, teachers and workers.

Felicia Pitre, a Dallas Urban League program coordinator, considers voter education, registration and participation to be one of her pet projects.

"The Dallas Urban League has traditionally been active with voter registration and I like participating," said Ms. Pitre. "All of our programs surround issues that affect African Americans and voting is very important. We talk about the importance of voting and we tell the registrants that they just can't register, that we want them to actually vote."

Through numerous programs, such as the First Interstate Bank grand opening, high school programs, the Urban League's job fair at Market Hall Center, partnering with Dallas Housing Authority at Carnival Stores, the African American Alliance at Nortel and First Baptist Church of Hamilton Park Thirty Something Ministries, the Dallas Urban League has been very instrumental in increasing the number of registered voters. Their continued commitment to increasing voter participation is exhibited by Ms. Pitre declaration to registrants. "I tell them, 'If I have to come pick you up myself, I will. Here's my number, give me a call.'"

At the Million Man March back in October of last year, thousands of voters were registered. "The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan said it was important that we begin examining the political process. He wanted us to become active participants in the process," said local representative Minister Jeffery Muhammad of Mosque Number 48.

Since the March, Minister Muhammad says that an effort has been made to continue registering voters. At several town hall meetings held since the March, voter registration and education has been on the agenda.

Minister Muhammad said he is pleased with the voter registration efforts of the Nation of Islam and the Million

Man March Local Organizing Committee.

"We're going to have a significant impact on this election," said Minister Muhammad, admitting that involvement in the political process is a novelty for those members of the Nation of Islam. "It's a new day in America for the Black man and woman. We realize that, and now so will others."

MON

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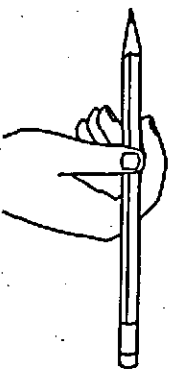


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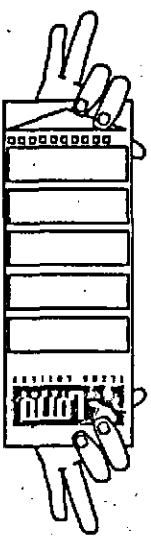
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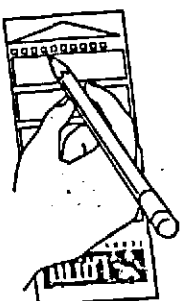
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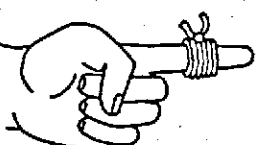
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51	Play A	51	Play B	51	Play C	51	Play D	51	
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Black radio stations urge voter participation

The ears of the African American community belong primarily to a handful of local radio stations. With the potential to reach hundreds of thousands of listeners, station officials say they realize the significance of using the airwaves for more than playing music. Educating the listening audience is also of importance.

"We've got to educate our people," said Keith Solis of V100. An on-air personality and assistant program director, Mr. Solis said history dictates that everyone votes, and while the stations don't say who to vote for, voting is stressed.

"Too many of our people have fought, died and been beaten for the right to vote," said Mr. Solis. "We feel that it is important that not only does everyone register to vote, but they have to actually get out and cast their votes."

His commitment to registering voters is so strong, says Mr. Solis, that he and others at the station became deputy registrars.

JoJo Davis, KRNB's program director and afternoon on-air personality, is new to the area. KRNB, a music intensive adult radio station, has been on the air barely two weeks. But Davis understands the importance of "being involved in the issues affecting people across ethnic lines."

"Getting out the vote is good for everybody and heightening the listening audiences' awareness of the need to vote transcends racial lines; however its clarity of the utmost importance for African Americans."

Stations use a variety of approaches to get the word out about voting.

KHVN/V100's promotion director, Tammy Bembenek, has partnered with organizations such as the Urban League, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the NAACP, and businesses such as 7-11 stores, to encourage citizens to register to vote. "It's (voting) an issue within the community that needs to be addressed," said Ms. Bembenek. "We are trying to reach as many people as we can and we've had an incredible response to our

efforts.

V100 and KHVN vans are equipped with voter registration cards and several promotional events have been held urging non-registered voters to fill out that card, said station officials. Two of the stations most successful promotions involved appearances by Senator Royce West and Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson at a 7-11 store in Oak Cliff, and another with the Dallas Urban League, the NAACP and legendary on-air personality Tom Joyner. Mr. Joyner broadcasted his syndicated morning show live from the Junior Black Academy of Arts and Letters with several special guests, including musical sensation Frankie Beverly and Maze.

Ongoing voter education is the focus of KKDA, said on air personality and program director Willis Johnson. Through the station's many talk shows and public service announcements, listeners have an opportunity to learn more about the election process and the issues.

"Election officials are on KKDA regularly, sharing information about upcoming elections," said Mr. Johnson. "Additionally, we have numerous forums providing education to our listeners."

KKDA's Joycelyn Johnson refers to the FM (K104) and AM (Soul 73) station's formats, which is ideal for providing continual information.

"We continue to discuss issues and

air public service announcements, as well as special announcements," replied Ms. Johnson. "This is an on-going process."

And KKDA's News Director Roland Martin is gearing up for election night coverage. But first, of course, there are the necessary steps to get listeners involved in the whole process.

"We're running profiles on the candidates in the 30th Congressional race and Congressman Martin Frost's race because those are two races of special interest to African Americans," explained Mr. Martin. "We're also running frequent election related stories and that coverage will intensify in the next month."

As with all elections, Mr. Martin says that he has focused on reinforcing the need for African Americans to vote and there will be a countdown to the last day to register.

"We're also going to continue to broadcast the early voter dates and locations."

And then, as one observer noted, the day after the election, there will be those who will still complain and give their excuses, no matter how much information they hear on the radio.

But Dallas County elections supervisor Toni Pippins-Poole said she appreciates the effort by the stations. "We need all the help we can get and the stations have been a big help."

MON

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Is there room for one more radio station?

KRNB is betting that there is, right on into the 21st century

By Dorothy Gentry

Contributing Writer

Radio for the 21st century.
Dallas' newest address.

These are just two examples of what the all-new "smooth and classic" KRNB-FM is calling itself.

They've even incorporated this "futuristic concept" into their position on the FM dial. KRNB is not 105 point 7; it's 105 dot 7. Get it?

Joseph Davis sure hopes so. "We are bringing better radio to Dallas/Fort Worth," says Davis, program director for KRNB and 3 to 7 p.m. (afternoon drive-time) on-air personality.

"I believe people will really like this station because of the music and the way it is presented, put together and packaged," he says. "We will have mass appeal."

Davis says the station sees its competition as, among others, adult-oriented KVIL-FM (103.7) and KOAI-FM (107.5). But clearly the main competition will come from KRBV-FM (100.3, better known as V100), currently the number one R&B adult radio station in the Metroplex. V100 went on the air playing "R&B hits and oldies" one year ago.

How much different will KRNB be from the above mentioned stations?

Station officials and well-known R&B icon Barry White (the official voice of KRNB's on-air promos) say the station will play "only the best selection of smooth R&B," and will specialize in "taking you back to when the music was real."

"We are pushing a full-service adult station. We see ourselves as an adult station that happens to play R&B," says Davis, the baby brother of the late jazz great Miles Davis.

Davis says their on-air personalities "will of course have fun and be a little comical, but no buffoonery. We will be fresher (than the other stations) of course, because we are new. But also because of

what we do and how we sound.

"I don't think there is an adult station with as much diversity in its programming staff."

KRNB's phone number is typical of most local radio stations—the prefix 787 and the last four digits being those of the station position on the dial. But you also can reach KRNB "world wide" by dialing 1-800-310-1057. They will also soon be accessible on the Internet.

As mentioned previously, KRNB has recruited quite a pool of on-air talent, including "Breakfast Bunch" members Steve Woods, Johnathan Hays and

Valerie Moore, and afternoon man Mark McCrae, who also serves as assistant to the program director.

The rest of the KRNB family includes Sean Andre, who will do overnights and weekends; former

K104 entertainment reporter-turned-model and flight attendant Wendy Schofield; Angele Newton, a graduate of Dillard University and Eva Gray, a graduate of Sam Houston State University, both of whom will be part-time board operators; and Danny Roberts, who will man the weekends.

"My staff is great," says Davis. "I know what we want as far as our image, our look, and I believe the public is ready for us."

One of the more interesting of the new KRNB on-air personalities is Rudy V, from Houston's KJMQ-FM.

Rudy, a former professional football player, hosted Houston's top-rated Quiet Storm for four years and appears ready to step up to the challenge of unseating V100's Chris Reynolds and his 7 to midnight "Night Moods" show.

And what a challenge that will be. "Night Moods" is the number one rated adult evening show in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Rudy, whose voice could literally melt butter, says he will bring "character and personality" to the Quiet Storm. "I am here to facilitate Dallas/Fort Worth's most romantic love songs.

"To me, the Quiet Storm is musical entertainment and seduction. I see it as a mood, a feeling, intimate expressions through song."

Rudy V (who, unfortunately ladies, is very married), says he and KRNB's Quiet Storm will be "the listener's refuge from whatever problems, joys, pressures they have gone through that day. I want to be their best friend, someone they can talk to and call. Without them, there is no me."

If you haven't already done so, be sure and set your FM radio dial to KRNB, 105 dot 7. It's worth a listen.

Radio Ins and Outs: Everyone knows this by now, but it bears repeating. V100 has done the right thing and hired veteran Dallas/Fort Worth radio personality Y-Vonne St. John, who was let go by K104 last month. She will take over the noon to 3 p.m. slot, replacing Pam Gibson, who has taken a leave of absence...Since moving its Quiet Storm to new sister station KRNB, K104 has brought in on-air personality "Broadway Joe" from WEGM-FM in Chicago. He

works the 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. shift...V100 and KHVN-AM (970) are the official radio stations for the annual Harambee Festival, Oct. 26, at the M.L. King Center. Both stations will broadcast live throughout the day from the site of the festival...V100 also will help bring in different shows and entertainment acts at the all-new Park Avenue nightclub. They also will continue their trip-a-day contest, where some lucky listener can win an all-expense paid trip to Jamaica, Cancun and other fabulous destinations...stay tuned to Heaven 97 for more details on the UNCF (United Negro College Fund) Walk-a-thon on Oct. 26 and on the annual For Sisters Only Expo, coming in December...Have you gotten your new V100 window sticker?...KRLD-AM (1080) has hired a new entertainment editor. Peter Arnell's (formerly of K104) entertainment reports will air at 6:50, 7:50 and 8:20 a.m. and 12:50 and 4:40 p.m...Stay tuned for an in-depth profile of KRNB program director Joseph Davis, who's single, smart and loves to cook.

More next month!

MON

Pen notes

By Cheryl Smith

Kent Harrell said goodbye to the Metroplex and KXAS-TV on September 11 as he headed to Amarillo to become news director at a local television station there. Kent left his post as Assignments Editor at KXAS and vice president-broadcast for the Dallas/Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators. We wish Kent well...Congratulations to Rene Syler of KVIL-FM and Buff Parham of KDFW-TV. They are the proud parents of Casey Anne, born on Monday, September 2. Yep, it was a real labor day for Rene!!! Finally I got the opportunity to question someone at the *Dallas Observer*! After hearing that Denise McVea was no longer there, I called over to talk to Glen Warchol. My call was returned by fairly new *Observer* editor, Julie Lyons, who confirmed that Denise was no longer at the publication. As soon as I hear the scoop, you can read about it here...Felicia Venters is the new assistant editor at the

Dallas Post Tribune. Formerly of the *Dallas Observer*, Felicia is a graduate of Texas Woman's University... The (Greenville) *Kuumba Heritage News* is now publishing twice a month and before you know it, the publication will be a weekly!!! Senator Royce West criticized the media recently for the poor showing at a program honoring nearly 300 area youth, ages 11-18. Only Channel 8, *The Dallas Morning News* and KKDA were in attendance. Sen. Royce's assertion that if there had been a fight or killing, the media would have been there in full force. And you know what? HE AIN'T LYIN'!!! ... Well, they finally did it. Of course they won't call it a demotion, but KDFW-TV anchor Phyllis Watson has been moved to the weekends. Flood the switchboards with your opinion. Call (214) 720-4444...Also, KRNB-FM (105.7) has hired several women, including Wendy Schofield, Eva Gray and Angel. Let's play catch-up, KKDA and K104!!!...For all of you in the media, don't forget to get those Griot applications in.

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Tupac's death subject of many debates

Texas Publishers Association wire service
By Cheryl Smith

The Nation of Islam called for a meeting in New York of rappers from around the country to discuss the death of rapper and film star Tupac Shakur. Minister Conrad Muhammad, of the Nation of Islam, said he was looking for solutions to ending the violence and the "so-called" rift between "East Coast" and "West Coast" rappers, which some speculate led to the rap artist's violent demise.

National Association of Black Journalists chapters across the country discussed the life of Tupac Shakur at media forums and talk radio programs opened up their phone lines to discuss the "gangsta life."

Published reports say he lived the life of a modern day "gangsta." Tupac Shakur was a rapper, and his lyrics told a tale of murder, death and destruction, but he also told of liberation and transformation.

Oftentimes portrayed as a "violent rapper who died in the gangsta culture he glorified in his music," some say they expected him to die a violent death. After all, he prophesied about his death in many of his lyrics. They also say he expected his death to be a violent one. And a violent one it was.

On September 7, Tupac Shakur was struck by several bullets in what has been called a drive-by shooting. According to reports issued shortly after the shooting, a white Cadillac with four people inside pulled up alongside the black BMW that Shakur and his manager, Marion "Suge" Knight, were in. Someone in the Cadillac opened fire, hitting Shakur several times in the chest. Mr. Knight was also wounded, though not seriously, during the assault.

For days, Shakur's condition was listed as critical. Follow-up surgery was required and one of his lungs was removed. People around the country waited to hear the news that Mr. Shakur had awakened from his comatose state. That news never came. Instead, on Friday, September 13, at 4:03 p.m. at the University Medical Center in Las Vegas, it was learned that Mr. Shakur had not survived the vicious assault on his body. The cause of death was listed as respiratory failure and cardiopulmonary arrest.

Violence and physical assaults were not foreign to Mr. Shakur. But critics of the media want to see a balanced portrayal of him and other rappers.

He was born Tupac Amaru Shakur

in Brooklyn, N.Y., on June 16, 1971 to Black Panther member Afeni Shakur. (He would later record under the name of "2Pac.") His mother carried him in her womb as she languished behind bars, awaiting a trial on conspiracy charges. She and several other Panthers were acquitted and released prior to her giving birth.

But her son would earn his own days



Rapper Tupac Shakur

behind bars for his own alleged crimes. He would not be fortunate enough to be acquitted, instead he would serve time for assault, sexual abuse, weapons charges and battery.

And he would bring his lifestyle to many as millions bought his records, tapes and CDs. They also flocked to see him in the movies, *Juice*, *Above the Rim* and *Poetic Justice*. There will be other opportunities to see the slain "genius" at work in movies soon to be released: *Gang Related* and *Gridlock*.

He has been referred to as brilliant. But he was also criticized for his message, which appeared to praise a lifestyle of violence, death and the gangsta life.

Tonya English, an entertainment writer and office manager of Lakeside The Nightclub, interviewed Mr. Shakur on at least three occasions. She says that "if people listened to Tupac's music, you don't hear gangsta rap."

"That's not what he was about," said Ms. English during a panel discussion sponsored by the Dallas/Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators. "He was really a poet. He was a party rapper. He was about gaining money and respect and being at the top of his game (rap music)."

Ms. English, considered by many to be an expert on rap music, expressed her outrage over the "unfair and biased" cov-

erage of Mr. Shakur and other rappers.

"Seldom did you read or hear about the positive things that he did," she continued. "It seemed as though the mainstream media did not want to show him helping families, encouraging people to register to vote, denouncing the 'three strikes' legislation, or advocating affirmative action. If you didn't really listen to his music, or all you listened to was media hype, then you never knew how intelligent he really was."

The outrage Ms. English expressed was also the battle cry of many who called into local radio stations blasting the media for its role in the whole "gangsta culture."

She said the media was "quick to report that Mr. Shakur sported tattoos that read 'thug life', along with a semi automatic rifle because it was all about the image they were trying to portray of the young man."

"But you never hear that he also had 'Exodus 18:11' tattooed across his back," she added. "And that is an example of what is so wrong with the media coverage."

The Dallas/Fort Worth Association of Black Communicators sponsored the media forum "Tupac, the media and rap music," to discuss the impact the media had on the rap artist's life and to give the community an opportunity to hear different perspectives. DFW/ABC officials said the group will be holding several forums addressing media issues of concern to the African American community.

Panel participant Froswa Booker-Drew is a counselor in the offices of noted psychologist Dr. Brenda Wall. While applauding the organization for stepping out on issues, Mrs. Booker-Drew chastised the media for its coverage of the African American community. She also urged parents to be an active participant with their children by taking an interest in the things that interest them.

"We have to look at the terms that are being used to label Black people," said Mrs. Booker-Drew. "Tupac was labeled a gangsta, but there were seeds of consciousness in his works."

Mrs. Booker-Drew added that people should confront their fears and try to understand them, instead of hiding or refusing to talk about those very things that Tupac Shakur talked about in his rap music.

While an investigation continues, officials have said that no one has come forward with information about the shooting.

Meanwhile, there has been a rush on record stores to get copies of his albums: *2Pacalypse Now*, *Strictly 4 My N.I.G.G.A.Z.*, *Me Against the World* and his first album on Death Row Records, *All Eyez on Me*.

MON



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October 5

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October 12

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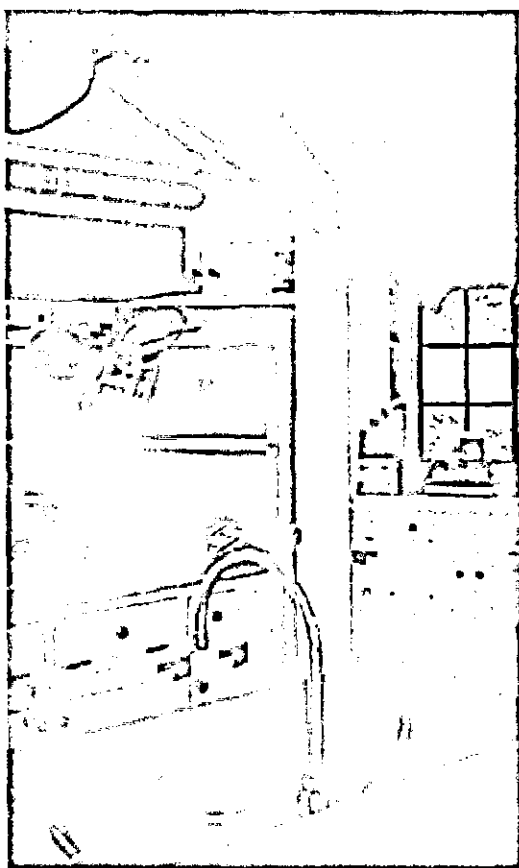
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Girlfriend,

Help! I don't know what to do with my life. I am tired of my job and yet going back to school to learn something new is not exactly what I thought I would be doing as I neared 40. Do you have any suggestions on how I can get myself out of this slump?

Don't tell me to pray, be patient, or even to grin and bear it. I have heard all of those little tidbits of advice and still things are not changing. I truly thought my life would be set about now. I need some advice and if you can't be helpful, then don't bother.

?????

Hey Girlfriend,

Hold up! First of all, what you need is a new attitude. And don't feel like you are on this boat alone. Noooo honey! There are about two billion of us going through the same thing in various forms.

Advice? Let me see. Hmm. At the risk of sounding like a broken record, you must pray, be patient and know that all things work together for good... Whomever gave you that advice was pretty much on track. Have you taken a personal inventory of yourself, your skills, your likes/dislikes? That would be a start. Figure out what you are reasonably good at, or if you have any skills or hobbies that can be transformed into income. My friend Sherry does not like sewing, but she is good at it and as of late has been thinking of a way to use her skills as a source of income.

I guess we need to dub this thing the FYOS—Forty Year Old Syndrome—because as many of us near that wonderful age, we realize that life isn't the bowl of cherries we thought it was going to be. I say a master plan is in order so that fifty won't catch us going through the same thing.

There is an upcoming workshop called "Empowering You...Because you deserve success!" presented by the networking group SABLE. Why don't you give them a call at (214) 581-8011 or 1-888-581-8013, for more information.



Girlfriend,

What is wrong with a person who can't, or will not, let go? I am in a relationship

with a woman who is getting on more than just my nerves. Let me say that correctly. I was in a relationship with this woman and we have literally come to the end of our road, but she does not see it that way. I have tried introducing her to other men and have turned down invitations from her so often it would seem that she would get the hint.

Am I being a dog for wanting her out of my life? This girl is really making a fool of herself.

End of the road...

Well sir,

You are being a little callous. Let me ask you a question. What if you were in her place and she had used you up (which I'm sure you didn't do to her, right?). Now, she just wants you to disappear. Would not your feelings be a little displaced? Have a heart, and some guts. Talk to this woman. For whatever reason some of us cannot... and will not...take a hint. We need a brick wall to fall on our heads. So don't worry about hurting her feelings. I'm sure you do that when you turn down her invitations. Just be up front and honest. If you are even remotely related to the Cowardly Lion, why not do the "do" by telephone or write her a letter. And be brave my friend. Most women get over heartbreak a lot faster when you are honest in the beginning. Don't let too much more time pass, allowing her to continue to make a fool of herself. Tell her now!



Girlfriend,

What are your views on women pursuing men? This is the 90s and I don't feel pursuing them is taboo but my best girlfriend does. She thinks men should be the one to do the calling, paying for dates and so on. Me, I think if you want something you need to go for it. Right? You'll never know if you don't try is my motto.

I told her I was going to write to you and she told me that you would never agree with me but would say she was right. Well which is it?

Raynella

Dear Raynella,

You are a brave girl using your

name, but then you would have to be to pursue a man in the first place. I am told some men like to be chased and I am told some don't. So instead of asking me, since you are such a bold lady anyway, why don't you ask the guy you are considering pursuing?

Personally, I like the old fashioned way. It gives me a thrill when a man that I have been secretly checking out (and debating his assets with my girlfriend), asks me for my number and then actually calls me. Once, I went out with a few family members and girlfriends to a club where the women were asking men to dance, buying men drinks and giving men their telephone numbers before they were even asked. Not only was I surprised, I knew I had been living in a vacuum when it came to dating in the 90s. Guess what I did? I crawled back into my vacuum and there I plan to stay. Girlfriend isn't exactly liberated when it comes to dating...pursuing and the like. So I side with your girlfriend.

But, like I said, some men like it and some men don't. I guess you really do need to ask them. How about we take a poll... for any brothers who read this column, women too, write to Girlfriend in c/o of MON and let us know what you think.

Good luck Raynella. Oh, by the way, have you not wondered why it is men have such a hard time approaching women? Well, it is that fear of rejection, and the same thing goes for most women.



Remember readers, Ask Girlfriend is a column for entertainment only. Please, if you are experiencing serious problems, find appropriate assistance. Sincerely, Girlfriend.

Write to Girlfriend c/o MON, 2730 Stemmons Freeway, 1202 Tower West, Dallas, Texas 75207

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Texas Veterans Land Board

Garry Mauro, Chairman



Fairy Street
Mama

Do you feel safe in your school?

Violence is presumably everywhere. We see violent acts portrayed or re-enacted on television. We hear detailed and, sometimes, twisted interpretations of life stories in our music, while our newspapers are able to give us still versions and unforgettable reminders of our ever deteriorating sense of moral responsibilities.

Violence has taken over our neighborhoods, encroached on our churches and is now, more than ever, infiltrating our schools.

Since the beginning of the school year, we have heard a lot in the media about violence in schools. It seems that most of the time, when one of these senseless acts has taken place, it is initiated by someone who doesn't attend that

need to talk to them, we can. We have never had an incident of real bad violence at our school; most kids just do their work and try to get through the day....Although I feel safe as far as weapons being at our school, I feel that some kids might get caught up in



Wendy Webster, 14, Westwood Jr. High-8th grade

drugs...I think that drugs are also a way of a teen being in danger because sometimes, when a person gets involved with drugs, they can't stop....At our school we have drug inspections where they bring in a dog to sniff around....I don't know any kids who use drugs, but I know that the temptation is there and I feel that kids should realize we are at school to get an education.....Another precaution that my school has taken is we are only allowed to have "see-through" back packs."

WENDY: "I feel safe in my school for a couple of reasons. The first reason is because our school is protected by the police department..... and the second reason is because most of the kids at our school feel that they are at school to get an education....At our school we have a diversity of students...We have parties and assemblies to get to know each other and our teachers promote good will among the students.....As far as violence

is concerned, we've only had a few fist fights and they weren't major....Most of the kids know that if they start trouble, they could be given a ticket or get suspended...They realize that they won't succeed if they promote trouble....I try to be a good role model to other kids to show them that there is another way other than violence, because I want the kids younger than me to feel safe too.....I know that there are bad people everywhere, but everybody has to work together to make our schools and the world safer."

FAIRY: It's great that the police departments are at our schools to protect our innocent children while they try to enjoy life and learn about themselves. But it is also sad that violence has gotten so bad that we have a need for protection from those that choose to show such disrespect towards others.

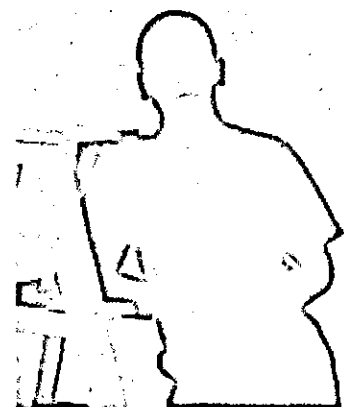
To you kids I say continue to pull together and reach out to one another. Learn to be watchful of other kids who could possibly get you involved in negative behavior. And don't let other kids talk you into doing something that you

know is wrong.

Don't let violence take over your school, your church or your community. Don't let violence even enter your life!

MON

Fairy Street Mama can be seen on cable Channel 23b on Tuesday at 4 p.m., Thursday at 5 p.m. and Saturday at 10 p.m. Also, viewers can see her live or call every 4th Wednesday from 8-9 p.m. For more information, call (214) 561-2002.



Brandon Booker, 13, Richardson Jr. High-8th grade

school. And all too often, the unfortunate victim may not have even known his or her attacker.

This month I spoke with kids who totally agree that, although violence has surrounded our world, their school remains a place for learning.

BRANDON "...I really feel very safe at my school because for one, we have police officers who stay at our school all day. They have an office in the school too, so that makes it pretty easy to find them....they tell us all the time that if we

Reeves, Jesse F.
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Collin County Youth Park

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Black Images

Thursday, October 10 • 6-8 P.M.
J. CALIFORNIA COOPER
Reads and Autographs
Some Love, Some Pain, Sometime (Anchor Books \$10.00)

Saturday, October 12 • 3-5 P.M.
Entertainer Extraordinaire PATTI LABELLE
Autographs
DON'T BLOCK THE BLESSINGS (Pulman \$24.95)

Tuesday, October 15 • 6-6 P.M.
TINA McELROY ANSA
Reads
THE HAND I FAN WITH:
A romantic, sexy, erotic and magical novel
Also the author of Ugly Ways (Doubleday \$23.00)

Wednesday, October 16 • 6-8 P.M.
Basketball Legend
Inventor of the "Sky Hook"
KARRIEM ABDUL-JABBAR
Autographs Black Profiles in Courage - A Legacy of African American Achievements (William Morrow \$22.00)

Thursday, October 24 • 7-9 P.M.
DR. JOCELYN ELDERS
Discuss and Autograph Jocelyn Elders, M.D.: From Sharecroppers Daughter to Surgeon General
Lecture Held: St. Luke "Community" UMC
5710 E. R.L. Thornton Fwy., Dallas (William Morrow \$25.95)

Tuesday, October 29 • 12-2 P.M.
VASHTI MCKENZIE
Autographs
Not without a Struggle: Leadership Development for African American Women in Ministry
Rev. McKenzie pastors the Payne Memorial AME Church in Baltimore Maryland (United Church of Christ \$15.95)

Coming
Saturday, November 9 • 3-5 P.M.
MICHAEL ERIC DYSON
America's leading young African American intellectual reveals how **RACE RULES: Navigating the Color Line** (\$20.00 Addison Wesley). Dyson, unearths the hidden rules that poison our language, our thinking, and our politics. Dyson depicts our ongoing failure to break free of the rule of race. He is currently a professor of Communications Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. His other works are: **Making Malcolm: The Myth and Meaning of Malcolm X** and **Between God and Gangsta Rap: Bearing Witness to Black Culture**.

Also a Guest Appearance
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Student Named All-American Scholar

Royce Gigi Brooks has been named an All-American Scholar by the United States Achievement Academy (USAA).

The USAA established the All-American Scholar Award program to offer deserved recognition to superior students who excel in the academic disciplines. The All-American Scholars must earn a 3.3 or higher grade point average.



Royce Gigi Brooks

Only scholars selected by a school instructor, counselor, or other qualified sponsor are accepted. These scholars are also eligible for other awards given by the USAA.

Royce, who attends Dunbar High School for Science and Engineering Professions was nominated for this national award by her academic counselor, Nancy Davis. Royce will be highlighted in the 1997 All-American Scholar Yearbook.

Royce is the daughter of Roy and Jennifer Giddings Brooks. She has one brother, Marion who is a student at the White Lake School in Fort Worth.

MON

Annual Mobil Gridiron Football Classic comes to Irving

By Anthony Bond

On October 12, 1996 two predominantly Black colleges, Texas Southern University and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, will play the 1st Annual Mobil Gridiron Classic at Texas Stadium in Irving, Texas. I wish to convey to the DFW metroplex how impor-

tant this event is in my opinion.

As current president of the Irving branch of the NAACP, I have been in the forefront of working with other metroplex NAACP branches to insure that the Dallas Cowboys, which includes Texas Stadium, live up to the commitment that

Jerry Jones made in June 1994 of maintaining an aggressive relationship with the metroplex's minority community. This annual game is just one shining example of how the Dallas Cowboys Organization is doing just that.

The game is important not just

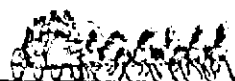
because it is an excellent sporting event, but more so because it will bring people of color to Irving to celebrate together what many still call "Negro Colleges." It is good for Irving and the metroplex to play host to such an event that helps celebrate African American/Black colleges.

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Local organizations join to promote Domestic Violence Awareness Month

DALLAS — In a bold move, Dallas-area Black pastors and a battered women's organization have joined forces to promote Domestic Violence Awareness month in the African American community. The African American Pastors' Coalition (AAPC), recently announced its partnership with The Family Place, a non-profit agency serving battered women and children, and unveiled an educational emphasis that uses the church to inform the community during the month of October.

This partnership between the organizations is timely in light of the rash of violence against women in the city of Dallas. During the summer of 1996, six women were killed by husbands or former boyfriends. Also, recent information received by The Family Place indicates that domestic violence has reached especially high numbers in the South Dallas area. The numbers there indicate that as many as 80-85% of the women in the 75215 zip code have suffered from battering or incest in their lives. The Family Violence unit of the Dallas Police Department reported receiving nearly 2,400 emergency 911 calls for help because of domestic violence. Many of these calls came from the 75215 zip code in the South Dallas/Fair Park area.

In Dallas overall, an estimated 75,000 women and 150 children are suffering from family violence. Over 500 women and children become homeless each night because of domestic violence. In 1995, 26 women were killed by their partners.

"The African American community can no longer continue to hide its head in the sand and ignore the high levels of violence in our community," said the Rev. Sheron C. Patterson, vice president of Relationships Ministries for the AAPC. "We must educate, inform and equip our people to rise above and eradicate violence in their homes. It is the prayer of the AAPC that battering victims as well as batterers, will seek help. There are answers to their problems. We have been silent on this matter too long."

According to the plan, the AAPC will:

- blanket about 100 churches with flyers and pamphlets that are intended to raise awareness about domestic violence;
- open its doors to The Dallas Family Place for information sessions that will educate church members about the issues surrounding violence;
- and generate interest in the African American community to provide safe

houses where battered women and their children can stay for periods of up to 30 days.

Additionally, The Love Clinic, the monthly Christian-based relationship seminar, will focus on violence in the African American community in its October session set for Friday, October 18, 1996 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at Jubilee United Methodist Church in Duncanville. The theme for the evening is "Love Should Never Hurt." The program will feature a panel of formerly abused persons and former batterers.

The AAPC is a cooperative movement of over 150 churches in Dallas. It includes a wide range of denominations such as Baptist, United Methodist, AME, AME Zion, and CME. The Rev. Zan W. Holmes, pastor of St. Luke Community United Methodist Church, is president of this forward thinking group, which, although newly formed, has developed a track record for innovation in the African American community via the collective power of churches.

If you would like to schedule an information seminar at your church, or need more information, please contact Cynthia Herrea at The Family Place, (214) 559-2170.

MON

What native Texan, considered to be an excellent school teacher, statesman, and Free Mason, was born in Kaufman County in 1866? Coming in MON's December issue.

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Economists take note as black buying power rises

Texas Publishers Association wire service

By Jackie Larson

Black buying power is on the rise in Texas. The buying power of black Texans has increased significantly in recent years and black households are outpacing white households on spending for consumer items such as cars, children's clothing and perishable foods, according to a recent report by marketing consultant Ken Smikle of Target News, a Chicago-based company that tracks trends in black consumer spending.

As the demographic group with the fastest rising rate of disposable income, black Texans are catching the eye of all sectors of the retail and service markets.

"When you're talking about billions of dollars to be made or lost, businesses have to sit up and take notice," Smikle said.

Leading Texas economist M. Ray Perryman said black Texans have more disposable income than ever.

"Retail spending by black consumers in Texas was \$12.584 billion in 1994," he said. Perryman's numbers include an estimated \$2.25 billion in food

sonal income for African Americans nationwide increased \$20 billion in 1995, when America's blacks earned an esti-

spenders.

While a wide range of variables, including higher fertility rates and improved prospects for employment and education, affect black spending power, indicators point to a growing and thriving demographic group that is becoming an economic force in Texas, according to

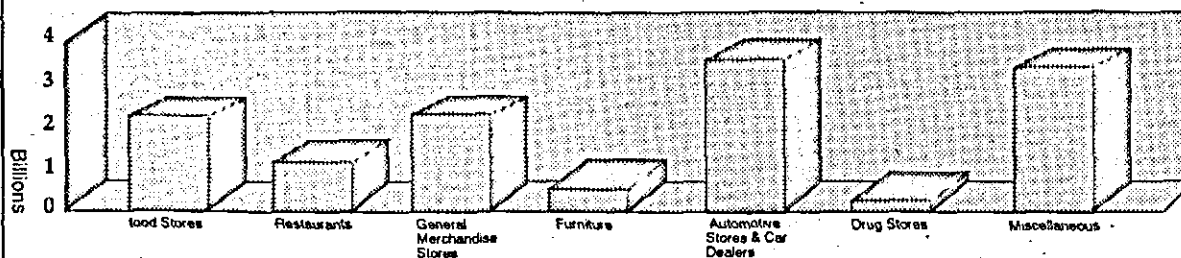
Thurman Jones, a Dallas-based publisher and president of the Texas Publishers Association.

"With more spending power and a young population, blacks in Texas are a driving market force. We have an increasing importance in the American economic forecast, and the prospect of reaching black consumers through target marketing is attracting the interest of businesses throughout Texas and the U.S.," Jones said.

"Marketing strategies that address these impressive figures will reach the targeted audience and contribute to Texas' strong economy," he added.

MON

Retail Spending of Black Consumers in Texas - 1994 (in Billions)



Source: M. Ray Perryman

mated \$324 billion. Spending by black consumers in the Dallas area alone came to \$3.2 billion.

Increased confidence in the economy prompted black buyers across the United States to spend \$10.8 billion on new cars and trucks in 1995, more than doubling the amount spent the year before and outflanking spending percentage increases of white vehicle buyers tenfold.

"As the economy continues to grow, African Americans are becoming more confident and aggressive in their purchases," Smikle said. "The expenditures per household, in many cases, are greater or distinctly different from white consumers."

While annual spending on clothing in black households parallels spending in white households, black shoppers outspend whites on clothing for children under 16.

Black households spent about 50 percent more than white households on food prepared at home, including fresh meat, fish, eggs and poultry.

Other highlights of Smikle's report include a 36 percent increase in black spending on consumer electronic items; an additional 21 percent on beverages; and a 17 percent increase in spending on personal care products.

Sporting events lured twice as many African Americans in 1995 as in the prior year, Smikle estimated.

With a comparatively young population that has yet to reach full earning potential, black buying power is expected to increase even further in coming years. The numbers haven't escaped nationwide retailers who are planning advertising campaigns and clothing lines designed to reach out to one of the nation's fastest growing groups of

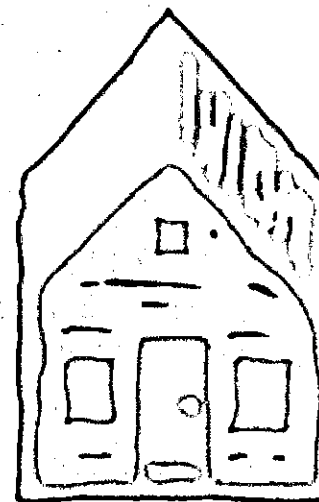
"We have an increasing importance in the American economic forecast, and the prospect of reaching black consumers through target marketing is attracting the interest of businesses throughout Texas and the U.S."

Thurman Jones, President, Texas Publisher's Assoc.

stores, \$1.28 billion in restaurants, \$1.77 billion in general merchandise stores, and over half a billion in furniture stores. Blacks also spent more than \$3 billion in automotive stores and car dealerships, \$360 million in drug stores and over \$3 billion in miscellaneous retail purchases.

According to Smikle's research, per-

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Olympic athlete Chryste Gaines brings home the gold

Chryste Gaines, the daughter of Reverend Millard and Pauline Parish and Attorney Carl E. Gaines, ran the first leg of the United States 4 x 100 Women's Relay team that won the gold medal in the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. She is a member of the Bethlehem Baptist Church in Ennis, Texas where her stepfather, Reverend Millard Parish is the pastor.

Chryste has a long history of winning. She won her first national title in track at the ARCO/Jesse Owens Games and tied the national record of 26.0 seconds while attending Holmes Middle School; at South Oak Cliff High School, she was a two-time state champion,

where her uncle and aunt, Donald and Deborah Parish are pastor, gave Chryste a gold medal "Welcome Home" celebration. City and state officials offering greetings and proclamations were Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, City Councilman Al Lipscomb and City Councilwoman Barbara Mallory-Caraway. Also bringing greetings and congratulatory remarks were Mrs. Mae Frances Saulter, president of Alpha Xi Omega Chapter; Dr. Mary Watkins, Chryste's former South Oak Cliff High School counselor and member of Alpha Xi Omega; the Thirty Two Echoes of Elegance (Chryste's 1995 Line Sisters of



Olympic gold medal winner Chryste Gaines (center, holding flowers) and mother, Mrs. Pauline Parish (left of Chryste), stand with members of Alpha Xi Omega Sorority in after-glow of Chryste's Olympic victory.

four-time All-American in track and was on the All-District teams for volleyball and basketball as well as being named Gatorade National Player of the Year in Track & Field. Chryste graduated valedictorian from South Oak Cliff High School in 1988. She continued her outstanding track career at Stanford University as a three-time Pacific Ten Conference champion in the 55 meter dash and outdoors champion in the 100 meter dash. Chryste graduated from Stanford with a degree in psychology and was an alternate on the 1992 U.S. Olympic Team in Barcelona. In 1995 she was inducted into the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sisterhood through the Alpha Xi Omega chapter here in Dallas.

Chryste ranked tenth in the world in the 100 meter dash in 1995 with an 11.02 seconds time and won the 100 meter dash at the Pan American Games in Argentina. She also won a gold medal at the World Championships in Gothenburg, Sweden, also in the 4x100 relay, and has also won three Grand Prix meets in Europe.

True Lee Baptist Church in Dallas,

AKA); and Mr. Raymond Butler, former South Oak Cliff High School track coach.

When asked her advice to the many young girls who were attending this celebration and receiving her autograph, Chryste said, it was for them to stay focused on their books and receive their education, and that she would not have made it to the Olympics if she had not also concentrated and excelled in academics, saying education is the key.

Chryste comes from a long line of Alpha Kappa Alpha women. She is the daughter of Mrs. Pauline Parish (Alpha Xi Omega), sister of Ms. Charletta Gaines, niece of both, Mrs. Norma Parish and Mrs. Deborah Parish (Alpha Xi Omega), and cousin of Tracy Cheatham, LaShonda Overstreet, Sandra Jackson (Alpha Xi Omega), and Cynthia Walker.

Chryste plans to continue training for the year 2000 Olympic games while possibly pursuing a masters degree in psychology. Obviously, Chryste continues to seek the gold medal status in every facet of her life.

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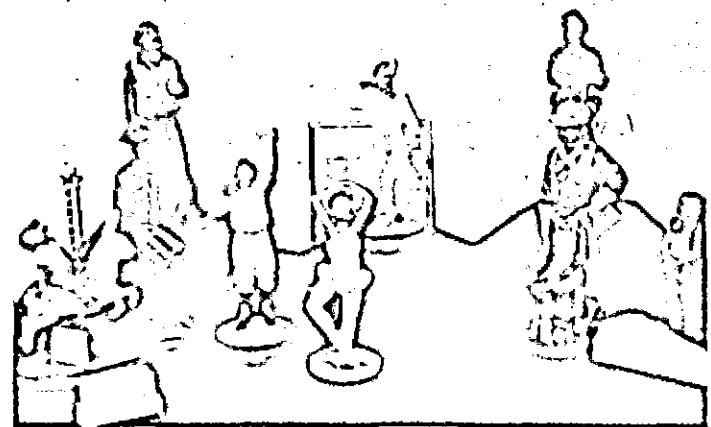
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Cheryl L.
Williams

In his first year as pastor of Crest-Moore King Memorial United Methodist Church, the Reverend Harry Wright Jr. raised money for the church to renovate the kitchen, replace all entry doors, purchase a YMCA summer membership and support the Vacation Bible School. Surprisingly, none of the funds came from the most obvious source, his congregation.

Instead, he wrote letters, prepared grant applications and arranged meetings with potential donors just like any other person or organization seeking funding for programs and projects. "Identifying resources and networking is one of the most important steps [in fundraising] because there are all kinds of opportunities out there," said Wright.

While many opportunities to obtain program funding exist, do not expect potential donors to give you money until you ask for it. So where and how do you begin? Begin at the earliest opportunity. Ask the people who benefit from the work of the organization or those who have close ties such as members of the board of directors, employees and volunteers. Find out why they give and what they want in return. Make the prospective donor feel important, intelligent and informed by individualizing each request as much as you can. Do not assume the person knows how much you want. Say exactly what you want.

Whether your agency needs money for operating expenses or special programs, one or more of the following fundraising techniques may suit your needs.

Solicitation Letter

A solicitation letter is a combination of a passionate sales pitch and a letter to a friend — personal, yet powerful. For optimum effectiveness, construct a letter that will:

- Create interest
- State the problem
- Arouse emotion
- Offer hope
- Offer participation
- Ask for the gift
- Offer thanks

If your organization has a mission that appeals to many people, direct mail solicitation may be profitable. You can purchase prospect lists from list brokers or obtain lists from other agencies. Because this method relies on high volume, it is expensive, but it can eventually pay off.

Studies show that for a first mailing, expect only a 1 percent return; however, of the people who give, 60 percent will give when asked a second time. Of the

The Art of the Ask — Ways to Ask for Money

people who give twice, 75% will give yet again. In effect, direct mail enables your organization to build a base of repeat donors.

Personalizing direct mail solicitation can substantially increase your chance of a response. Work with your board of directors and volunteers to develop lists of prospective donors. Use sources such as church directories, board lists from other organizations, club membership lists, Chamber of Commerce membership lists, etc. Have your board members sign individual notes on the letters and follow up with phone calls.

Grant Proposal

Grants are available from the government (federal, state, and local), private foundations, churches and a variety of agencies organized for social and benevolent purposes. Grants are an attractive fundraising medium because:

- Initial costs are small when compared with techniques such as direct mail
- The grant can be substantial and involve multiple year awards
- Generally, high prestige is not a requirement for funding
- Very little staff and volunteer labor is needed

However, applying for a grant can be likened to entering a contest. Following all the rules and meeting the deadline improves your odds of obtaining an award, but hardly guarantees one. To better your chances, do your homework. Call or write the grant maker and ask for an application form, application guidelines and a copy of their annual report. If feasible, tailor the grant to the philosophy of the grant maker.

To research grant sources, visit the downtown branch of the Dallas Public Library. They offer a Grants Information Service that includes directories referencing many local and national foundations, 990-PF's (tax returns) for Texas foundations and a large selection of periodicals and books.

Person to Person

Personalizing a request for money is always the best way to ask, and face to face meetings are always the best way to personalize the request. If you are unable to do so yourself, have a board member or volunteer arrange a meeting with you and a prospective donor and be prepared to meet at the donor's convenience. Respect the time of busy individuals. Be on time, get to the point, and do not stay too long. Treat each prospect as an important, intelligent individual. Come prepared to sell your cause, creatively and assertively in the following ways:

- Have a thorough knowledge of the

organization

- Know how the money will be used
- Be prepared to dispel negative press or rumors
- Accentuate the positive

Think about why you give money to an organization. Your reasons for giving will be about the same as everyone else's and can help you understand what motivates people to give. Before asking for a contribution, you should thoroughly believe in the mission of the organization and prove that commitment with a financial gift. Do not expect people to do something you are not prepared to do yourself. Your own financial commitment is an invitation to a prospective donor to join you in your support.

If the idea of asking a stranger for money instills fear and uncertainty, attempt to dispel those feelings by practicing your fundraising appeal on a friend or colleague.

Evaluate what you stand to lose and what you stand to gain. If you fail, you lose the donation, but you still get experience and the knowledge you were brave enough to try. Do not give up on the prospect because you have also gained an introduction to make it easier next time.

Understand that when fundraising, fear is expensive. Joan Flanagan, author of *The Grass Roots Fundraising Book*

Chronology of Nonprofit Series

- JulyStart your own nonprofit ☐
- August.....Board of Directors ☐
- September.....Volunteers ☐
- OctoberAsking for money ☐
- November.....Fundraisers ☐
- DecemberA Time to give ☐

explains it this way:

"Fear is the parent of procrastination. Procrastination is the thief of time. Time is money."

If your organization is not using one of these basic methods of fundraising, plan now to start a fundraising program. Can you afford to waste time?

MON

Note: Presented were tips on three of the more customary ways to ask for money. Future columns will examine innovative methods employed by local nonprofits. For more information on ways to ask for money, conduct a direct mail campaign, write grant proposals, and solicit major gifts, visit the Grants Information Service department of the Dallas Public Library. The Center for NonProfit Management also regularly conducts classes and seminars on these subjects.

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Ron Shaw

We have a name

Acts 4:7

Recently I was reminded of something I had almost lost sight of. In light of all that we continually face just to survive in this violent age, we must remember that God has not left us defenseless. In fact, we have an arsenal that can defend against anything this world throws at us. This may sound a bit fanatical, but not for a follower of Jesus.

Years ago I contemplated buying a gun with which to protect my family. My father had previously given me a small .22 caliber pistol that would fall apart every time I pulled the trigger. As I contemplated this decision, the Lord said to me, "Son, you've got a much better weapon than a gun." This weapon proved to be safer and more accurate

In Jesus' name poverty, sickness, death, prejudice, hate, fear, confusion all can be rendered powerless.

than a gun or anything else I could have acquired in the natural realm. In 2 Corinthians 10, our weapons are described as mighty, with God backing them up with His power and will, able to stop anything the devil (or this world) can use to assault us. So I started learning about this supernatural weapon: The mighty name of Jesus Christ.

Consider our text. A lame man was sitting at the entrance of the temple begging for money. Peter and John were about to enter when the lame beggar asked for a contribution from them. Peter said to him, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give to you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Peter was saying that he had a name that was greater than lameness. When the lame man was healed, the Jewish authorities arrested Peter and John and asked them by what name (or power) had they done this? They equated power with a name. In this world, it's by names that we all operate.

Words and names are the key to operating here on earth. In the second chapter of the book of Genesis, God wanted to see what name Adam would attach to all creatures. He gave Adam the right to assign names. We are also told that the world was framed by God's Word. So words and names are keys to

operating successfully here. If you have the right to a good name, you have power. Proverbs 22 says a good name is better than riches. Why? Because if you have a good name, you won't have any trouble getting riches. On the other hand, if you have riches and a bad name, your riches will be short-lived.

However, our name carries no weight in the spiritual realm. And it is the spiritual realm that governs the physical world. A spirit created all natural things; therefore the spiritual realm has to be where the power is. If your name is good or you have the right to use a good name at the bank, you can get anything that bank has to offer. Jesus has a good name, according to Philipians 2, in heaven, on earth, and under the earth (among the forces of darkness). God said at the sound of Jesus' name, "...every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord." God said that Jesus' name is above every name for all time and eternity and in every place. Think of it? If you have the right to use that name, you can get anything you want.

I didn't have to buy a gun for protection. I have a name that has authority over burglars and rapists and robbers and crooks of all sorts. I don't have to worry about illness 'cause I have a name that has authority over any kind of illness—physical, emotional or mental. My natural name is Shaw but that has limited power on earth and no power in heaven and zilch in hell or with the forces of darkness. So, I need a name that has power everywhere and at all times. Thank God I have a name that covers anything, anywhere, and anytime. It's the Mighty Name of Jesus. It has been given to me to use.

As a Christian, you have the right to use that name. In Jesus' name poverty, sickness, death, prejudice, hate, fear, confusion all can be rendered powerless. No matter what your condition or situation, remember: as a Christian, you have a name. Use it!

MON

Ron Shaw is the pastor of LightChurch and can be reached at (214) 320-5744.

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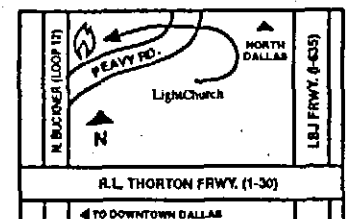
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With Pastor Ron Shaw





Curtis Yates

In the past I've written about different programs—state, city, and county—that require that a prospective homebuyer come up with at least 3 % of the home's purchase in order to secure a home loan. Well, the problem was, and in many cases still is, that many people could not come up with the 3 % initial investment.

The Home Saver Program, adminis-

Statewide Affordable Mortgage Plan (ST.A.M.P.)

a \$65,000 home, prospective homebuyers would need to raise only \$975.00 of the \$1,950.00 required. A prospective homebuyer could take up to six months to save their portion of the 3 %; if a particular home they wanted to purchase becomes unavailable, they can settle for one of equal value.

The Federal Home Loan Bank has

newly constructed homes not exceeding \$65,000 will be acquired through the disposition programs operated by HUD (Housing & Urban Development), RTC

ing 25 homes are for families whose income falls at 50% of AFMI.

Box one illustrates an example of the \$2,000 principal reduction along with the Home Saver Program's matching saving plan in conjunction with an additional housing assistance program (The Enterprise Foundation), which will be offering up to 10% of sales price of the home being purchased for housing assistance (down from the present 20%).

Box 1

Sales Price:	\$ 65,000
Down Pymt:	\$ 6,500 (From Enterprise Foundation)
Loan Amount	\$ 58,500 (@ current market rate; 30yrs)
Prin. Reduction	\$ 2,000 (From Statewide Affordable Mortgage Plan)
New Loan Amt.	\$ 56,500
Closing Costs	\$975 (from the borrower) + \$975 Matched through Home Saver Program
Total Investment from Borrower	\$1,950 (required initial investment from borrower)

(Resolution Trust Corp.), VA (Veterans Administration) and FNMA (Federal National Mortgage Association), providing \$4,000 per unit for principal loan reduction. This maximum, for the first 10 homes for families whose income falls at 80% of AFMI (Area Median Family Income), has been fulfilled. Currently, the amount is a maximum of \$2,000 for principal mortgage reduction for 40 homes purchased by families whose income falls at the 51-60% of AFMI level. The remain-

If you have questions that you would like to have addressed concerning the Home Saver Program you may contact Linda Walker with Guaranty Federal Bank at (214) 360-8967. Box 2 is a simple chart to help determine maximum annual income that a family may earn for the 50-60% AMFI.

MON

Curtis Yates is the owner/operator of REAL ESTATE STATUS QUO; 8131 LBJ Fwy; Ste. 800; Dallas, Tx 75251. E-mail cya755@airmail.net.

Box 2

Family Size	50% AMFI Max. income	60% AFMI Max. income
1	\$16,905	\$20,286
2	\$19,320	\$23,184
3	\$21,735	\$26,082
4	\$24,150	\$28,980
5	\$26,082	\$31,298
6	\$28,014	\$33,616
7	\$29,946	\$35,935
8	\$31,878	\$38,253

tered through Guaranty Federal Bank, is designed to assist homebuyers with their required 3 % initial investment by paying 50%. Meaning, that in our example of

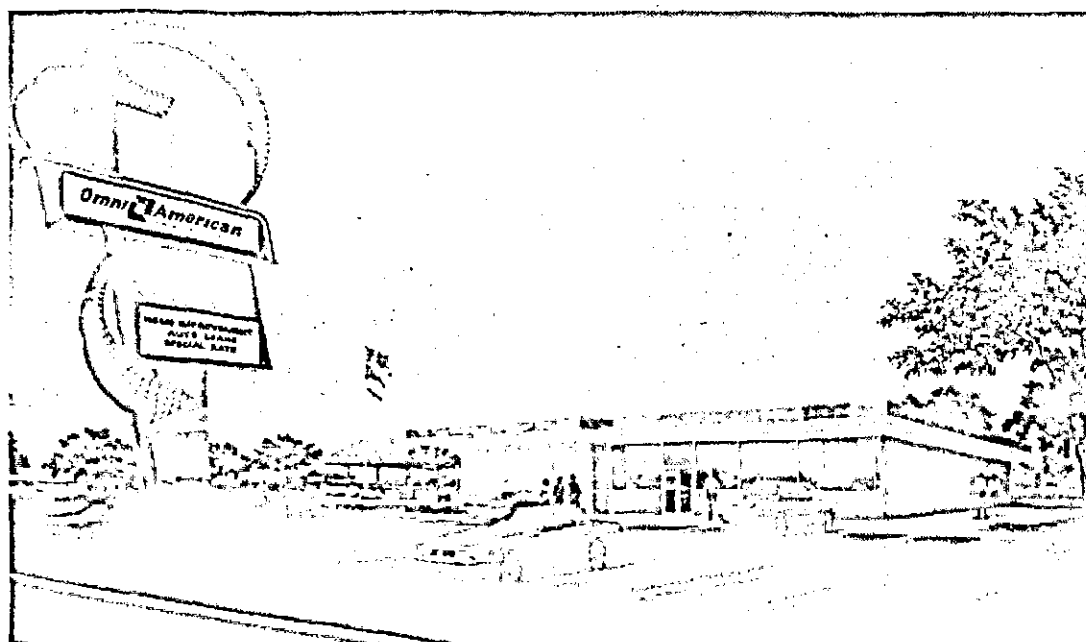
also approved funds to be administered through Guaranty Federal, along with a nonprofit organization, The Texas Federation Housing Counselor, Inc., for housing assistance. Seventy-five existing or

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Center for Community Cooperation

JOB DESCRIPTION

POSITION: MEETING COORDINATOR

PURPOSE OF POSITION: The Meeting Coordinator is responsible for assisting nonprofit clients holding meetings and for the operation of the Center for Community Cooperation on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings and on Saturdays. Hours are contingent on the schedule of meetings but are typically 4 p.m. - 10 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. on Saturday. This part-time reports to the Assistant Manager of the Center for Community Cooperation.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Ensures efficient operation of meetings through on-site trouble shooting.
- Oversees check-in/check-out of groups using the CCC.
- Greets meeting attendees and directs them to appropriate meeting rooms.
- Orients new groups with the missions of the CCC and CNM.
- Instructs groups in use of audiovisual equipment and oversees use of equipment during meetings.
- Answers CCC phones and takes messages for meeting attendees.
- Handles purchase of photocopying and fax services.
- Monitors cleanliness of conference center and restocks supplies as needed.
- Updates Assistant Manager regarding maintenance or janitorial needs.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Strong communication skills.
- Professional appearance.
- High energy and strong problem solving skills.
- Values timeliness and dependability.
- Organized yet flexible and able to deal with change.
- Recognizes and appreciates diversity of clients and coworkers.
- Understands importance of customer service.

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Minority Opportunity News

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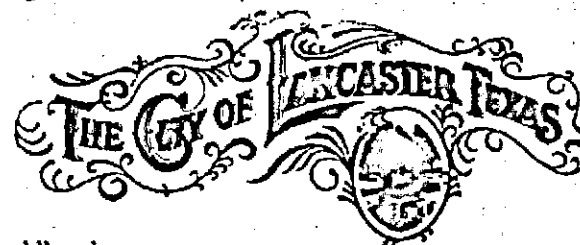
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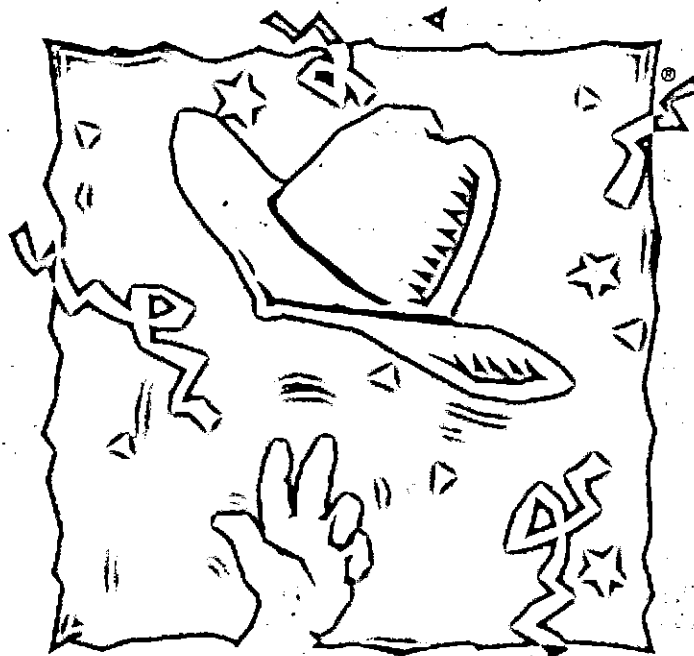
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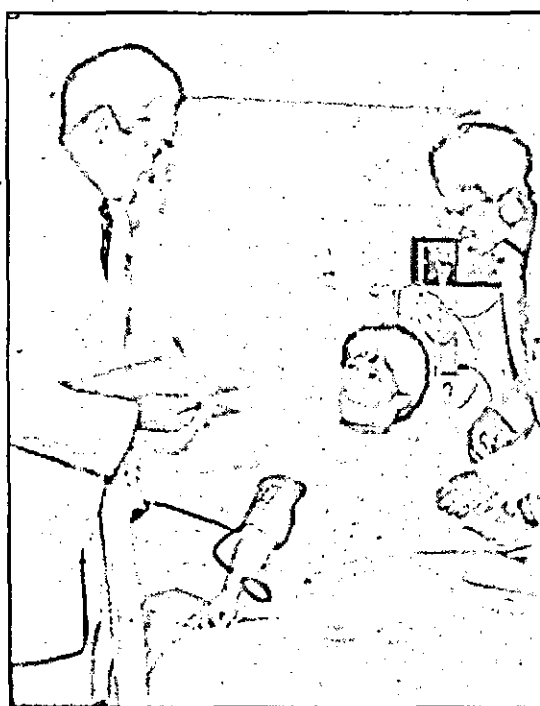


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Information Systems

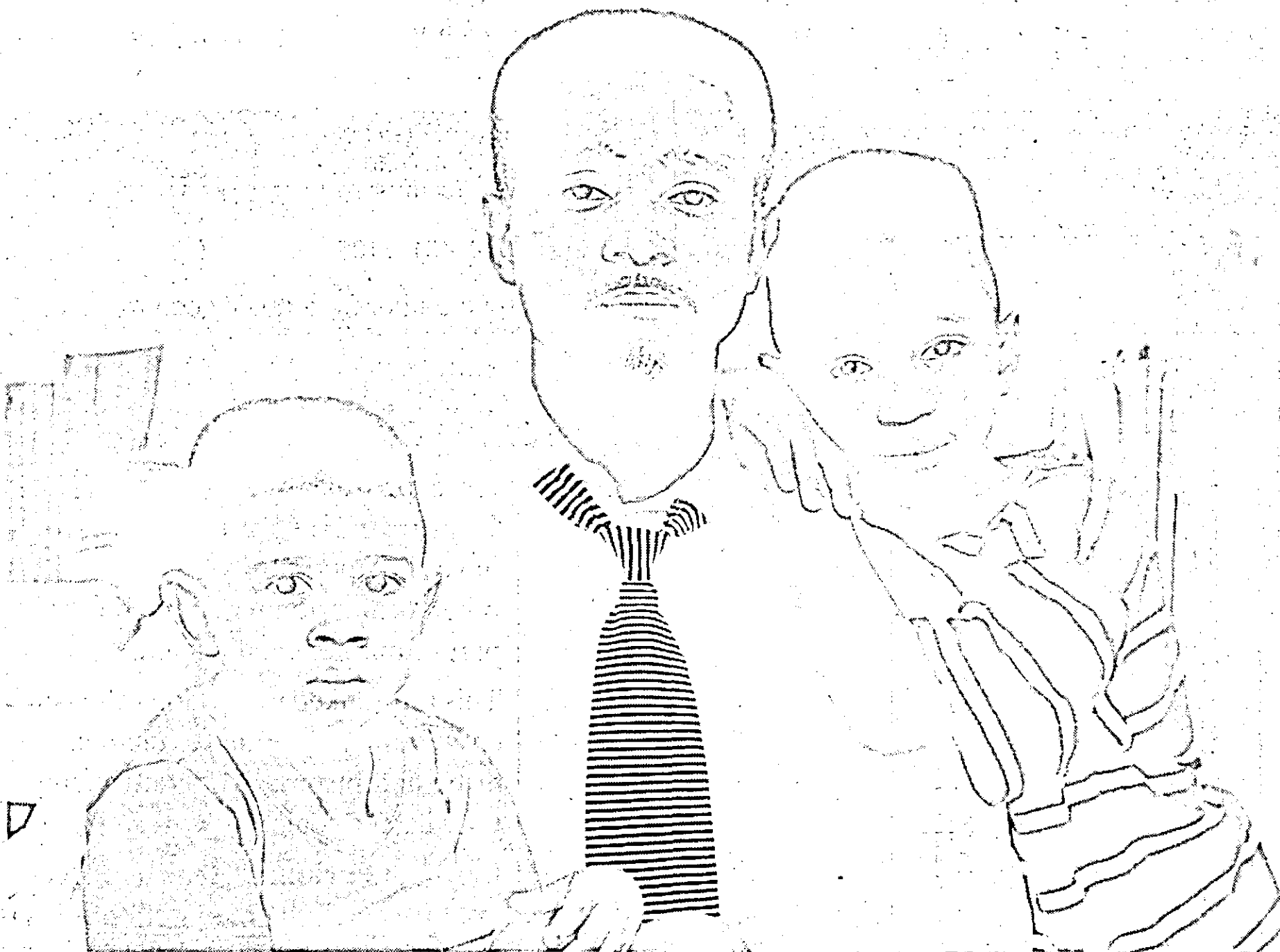
Pharmacists
Respiratory Therapists
Accounting & Finance

Contact Human Resources, 214-590-8063 or Nurse Recruitment, 214-590-8992.

Parkland Health & Hospital System

5201 Harry Hines Boulevard, Dallas, TX 75235.

"ON NOV. 5TH, I'M VOTING
FOR MY KIDS."



Every day of your child's life depends on whether or not you vote.

And, whether or not you vote for Clinton/Gore.

If you *don't*, the Dole-Gingrich Republicans may get the chance to continue cutting, slashing and eliminating the things that are important to you and your family. They've already voted to cut school lunches. Limit child immunization programs and Head Start.

You've got the power to stop them.

President Clinton is meeting the challenges of raising a family, protecting our values. He pumped nearly \$800 million into Head Start • Expanded Child Immunization and access to quality Health Care • Supported School Lunches • Is fighting crime in public housing • Working to prevent teen pregnancy • Reduced violence and drug abuse in school • Passed the toughest Crime Bill ever.

President Clinton *is* dealing with the hard issues. But he can't continue to do it without your vote.

On Nov. 5TH vote for the people you care about.



VOTE
CLINTON/GORE 96
IT'S TOO IMPORTANT NOT TO.